FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Military Situation — U.S. warships again bombarded artillery positions in the Ash-Shuf Mountains after U.S. Marine positions came under fire, according to reports by Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon on 19 September. Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army repulsed repeated attacks on Suq al-Gharb, Beirut radio reported. Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) sources cited by Radio Monte Carlo said the U.S. shelling enabled the Lebanese Army to hold Suq al-Gharb and destroy the attacking PSP force which had entered the town. U.S. shelling cut off the attackers' supply lines while U.S. hovercraft resupplied the retreating Lebanese Army with equipment and ammunition, the sources said. PSP sources also announced that another Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter jet was downed near Bhamdun, Damascus radio reported. The Lebanese Army Command admitted the loss of an unarmed reconnaissance plane in a statement carried by Beirut radio. Lebanese warplanes continued to raid hostile positions in the mountains, the radio noted earlier. Farther north, artillery exchanges continued in the Al-Batrun area,, and Lebanese Army helicopters attacked military positions there, according to Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon.

Following Libya's announcement placing its forces at the disposal of Syria and the PSP, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Libyan officers and equipment recently arrived in Syria. A Lebanese military source cited by the radio also claimed that over 300 Syrians and Palestinians were killed in the latest fighting and that some 7,500 Syrians and Palestinians are in 'Alayh and Baysur. Meanwhile, a PSP source cited by Damascus radio affirmed that Amal Movement fighters are fighting alongside the PSP militia.

In a separate development, an Army Command statement broadcast by Beirut radio announced a complete curfew in the area between the southern suburb of Beirut and Ash-Shuwayfat. Anyone violating the curfew will be shot, the statement said.

Political Developments — If the United States continues its direct intervention in the conflict by preventing PSP militia from occupying Suq al-Gharb, no one will be able to impose restrictions on the PSP's alliances with the Palestinians and others, PSP leader Walid Junblatt announced in remarks reported by Radio Monte Carlo. Earlier, in an interview broadcast by Paris radio, Junblatt said a political settlement of the conflict must involve the withdrawal of the Lebanese Army from the Ash-Shuf Mountains followed by a "roundtable" including both the National Salvation Front (NSF) and President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Meanwhile, Saudi envoy Prince Bandar ibn Sultan returned to Damascus where he held separate contacts with Junblatt, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and a U.S. diplomat, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Prince Bandar told journalists that he was cautiously optimistic and that he had submitted "new suggestions" for a cease-fire, AFP reported. The new Saudi proposals involve slight amendments to the previous Saudi-Syrian draft plan, according to "informed sources" in Damascus cited by AFP. Beirut radio said the Saudi envoy would meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Latakia on 20 September. In another development, U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane returned to Beirut, Radio Free Lebanon noted.

The U.S. Navy shelling of PSP positions is "not the best way" to resolve the Lebanese conflict, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson declared in an interview reported by AFP. Although France and the United States work together within the framework of the multinational force, France is not part of the same "cog-wheel" as the United States, Cheysson said, and France will "never" associate itself with a policy leading to the division of the Middle East into Soviet-Syrian and U.S.-Israeli spheres of influence. A Damascus radio commentary said the United States is slipping into a serious abyss by escalating its military involvement and blamed the Americans for hindering peace efforts by urging the Lebanese Government to reject Prince Bandar's cease-fire plan last week. In a Kuwait press statement reported by KUNA, Syrian Defense Minister Major General Mustafa Talas reaffirmed Syria's readiness to reply to "any aggression to which our forces are exposed."

Despite the suppport for the PSP and NSF expressed by both Syria and the PLO, Damascus and Baghdad Voice of PLO radio commentaries have indicated that Syria and its allies differ with the PLO leadership on policy toward Lebanon. Without referring directly to recent PLO declarations that Palestinian forces are participating in the Ash-Shuf fighting, Damascus radio warned that "blaring out empty and stupid statements" on Palestinian participation in the conflict is a direct invitation for further U.S. and Israeli interference in Lebanon. Reacting to a recent PSP statement rejecting military support offered by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Baghdad Voice of PLO stressed that the touchstone for any Arab force or state is its stand on the Palestinian revolution under 'Arafat's leadership.

IDF Casualties — Five Israeli soldiers were wounded when a bomb exploded near an IDF convoy northeast of An-Nabatiyah, IDF radio reported.

PLO Affairs

Fatah loyalist and dissident forces exchanged artillery fire during clashes in a camp in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with representatives of Palestinian resistance groups in Tripoli to discuss the current situation in Lebanon, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine Radio.

In another development, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf denounced statements made by Democratic

presidential candidate John Glenn, terming the PLO "international thieves and highwaymen," and described the remarks as an attempt to gain the support of the Jewish lobby in Washington, KUNA reported.

Israel

President Hayim Herzog continued to meet with representatives of various parties to discuss the formation of a new government, Jerusalem radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

In a speech to War Week organizers, reported by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni warned foreign powers against helping Iraqi President Saddam Husayn any further and declared that if more aid is given, the world powers will "be cut off from oil resources." If they help Saddam to attack Iranian economic resources, Khomeyni added, "they will not see any oil any longer." Meanwhile, French External Relations Minister Cheysson announced that France will honor its contract with Iraq for the delivery of five Super Etendard attack planes.

Gulf States

UAE border and coast guards arrested 50 Iranian infiltrators trying to enter the country illegally, according to an *Al-Ittihad* report cited by QNA. The Iranians were jailed prior to deportation, the paper said.

Libya-Chad

In an interview with AFP, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu reiterated the French policy of limited involvement in the Chadian conflict but declared that French troops will defend themselves if attacked. Hernu also stressed the need to solve the war by negotiations.

Pakistan

The Foreign Ministry issued a protest to the DRA charge d'affaires in Islamabad over the bombing raid by Afghan MiG's on a small northwestern village and warned that "serious repercussions" could result if such violations continue, Karachi radio reported. The Pakistani UN ambassador has been instructed to complain to the UN secretary general and to request that a letter on the bombing be accepted as a UN General Assembly and Security Council document, the radio said.

Meanwhile, an armed crowd attacked a police station in Sind Province as the civil disobedience campaign continues, according to the radio.

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Sabra, Shatila 'Massacre' Anniversary Noted

Al-Wazir Blames U.S.

NC170909 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Address by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Jihad; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Sons of our people in the occupied homeland, masses of our Palestinian people everywhere, sons of our Arab nation, and sons of the great people of Lebanon: Today marks the first anniversary of the savage massacre which the aggressive Israeli forces and their allies committed in the camps of Sabra and Shatila. This massacre claimed more than 4,000 men, women, and children from among the sons of our Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Today we remember all the victims of this great crime. The United States, which is hostile to our people, revolution, national cause and sacred rights, participated in the perpetration of this crime and was one of its causes. U.S. President Reagan personally, and his administration, bear a political, humanitarian, and ethical responsibility for this massacre, the atrocity and horror of which have shocked the entire world.

We believe it appropriate at these sad, pained, and bitter moments when we are resolved to stand fast and continue the path despite all sacrifices and difficulties, that all of us Palestinians and Lebanese — men, women, children, elderly, fedayeen, mothers, fathers, and sons — should establish in our minds that the United States and President Reagan's administration are partners on an equal footing with the Zionist enemy in this horrible crime.

The responsibility of the United States and the governments of France and Italy in this massacre is represented by the fact that they belittled the dangers which surrounded our Palestinian camps in Beirut at the time, and in the fact that they withdrew early from the zones of their security responsibilities, which they pledged before our fighters left Beirut.

Anyone who believes that Sharon, Eytan and Begin have disappeared from the scene without a reason is mistaken. The massacre was one of the reasons. Their disappearance is real proof of the failure of the invasion to realize its political and military objectives. Their actions have backfired, without a doubt. They have disappeared because of the continuous losses in life which they paid on the Lebanese soil. They disappeared because of the continuation of the will of defiance and resistance of the Palestinian and Lebanese people. They disappeared because of the continuous painful blows which the national resistance men dealt to the forces of the invasion from Al-Mansurah to the outskirts of Beirut.

The battles now taking place in Lebanon and in the mountain are actually a struggle between the American-Zionist-Phalangist plan and the National Arab plan. It is a struggle between the results of the invasion and its consequences, and the national and Islamic will. It is a struggle between the tools of the Zionist enemy and the genuine Arab Lebanese forces. It is a struggle between the U.S. solution and the national solution. It is a struggle between the Phalangist-Zionist agreement and the forces rejecting and resisting it.

Fatah's Ar-Rahim Marks Event

NC161112 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0500 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Speech by Fatah Revolutionary Council member At-Tayyib 'Abd ar-Rahim delivered at the 15 September festival held by the popular committees and leagues in Tripoli, Lebanon on the first anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres — recorded]

[Excerpts] We meet today to commemorate the occasion which marks a debt, oath, pledge, and our determination to be faithful to the blood of the martyrs and to follow their course — the course of the life of this nation, the raising of its flag, and the crushing of its enemies represented by U.S. imperialism, Zionism, and their instruments in the Arab region. The history of the Zionist enemy is full of such massacres. It established its aggressive entity in the heart of this region, on our land in Palestine, and on the Lebanese and other Arab territory by committing massacres.

It is the aim of the Zionist strategy to instill fear in the heart of the Arab citizen, to kill his spirit of steadfastness and resolution, and to plant despair in the heart of the Arab man so he will refrain from contemplating bearing arms and will not think about the revolution and carry it out. The objective behind the Zionist massacre was to slaughter our will and morale. What was the result? The occupation of the land of fraternal Lebanon for one year has so far resulted in the continuation and escalation of the war of attrition against the Israeli forces. The enemy's leaders have not denied that this war of attrition is causing division inside the Israeli society and destroying its morale. They have not denied that if this war of attrition continues, it will lead to more economic, moral, and social problems inside the Zionist entity. I say very frankly and without any exaggeration that this war of attrition brought about the downfall of Menahem Begin. There are many reasons for Begin's resignation, but the fact is that the reason for Begin's downfall is the human losses which the national Lebanese-Palestinian war of attrition has inflicted on the ranks of the Israeli army. Another reason for Begin's downfall is the economic difficulties which this war of attrition is creating. The most important result of this war of attrition is the fall of Israel as a striking hand of imperialism in this region.

As a result of all this and our loyalty to the blood of the national Lebanese and Muslim martyrs, and of the martyrs in the Palestinian revolution, the situation has become complicated in Palestine. Israel is effecting a partial withdrawal from Lebanon. Israel is withdrawing to avoid losing more of its forces. In the meantime, the United States has entered with its fleet. The United States — the archenemy of this nation — entered after its instrument [Israel] failed to achieve all the objectives behind the invasion. The United States entered with its fleet to try to impose its domination on this nation, the masses of Lebanese and Palestinian people, and on all the national, Islamic, and progressive forces in this region.

The United States is not fighting the Lebanese people alone. When fighting the Lebanese people, the United States is actually fighting all the masses of the Arab nation. Therefore, this war must assume a popular character now that the Arab regimes have proven their inefficiency and failure, rather, after they have proven their plotting and agreement with U.S. imperialism and the Zionist enemy to impose their domination on this region. Therefore, we say that all Arab popular resources — all the national, patriotic and Islamic resources — must be mobilized to confront the plans of imperialism and Zionism.

Here we must speak about what is happening in the Palestinian arena and bitterly ask: In whose interests were peripheral battles created on the Palestinian arena when the fedayeen operations were escalating against the Zionist presence in Lebanon to constitute a fatal war of attrition? What is the agreement reached with U.S. imperialism to isolate the Palestinian arena and strike the unity of the Fatah movement? In whose interests are barriers placed in our way, are our positions shelled, and our heavy weapons taken from us at a time when we are fighting in the mountain alongside with the Nationalist Movement and the Islamic Lebanese forces?

In whose interests is all this happening and in agreement with whom is it happening? Is it happening to make reforms inside the Fatah movement. Those responsible for these actions are not faithful at all. They want to wrest our Palestinian national decision from our hands to place it at the negotiating table of the United States in order to improve the position of this or that regime there.

They say that we should go along with the Americans, brothers. All of you know the fact that all our heads, starting with Brother Yasir 'Arafat and ending with the smallest fighter on the Palestinian arena, are wanted by the Americans. [applause] We do not receive, nor do we want to receive, the Americans. We have no relations whatsoever with them. There is nothing between us and them other than the battlefield and arms.

Hawatimah Notes Syrian Ties

JN162021 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus — Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP] has said that enemy designs are foiled by the solid Syrian stand against U.S.-Israeli plans, and by the stand of the Lebanese Nationalist Front and the brave Palestinian resistance that are pursuing their resistance of the Israeli occupation forces in Lebanon.

Speaking on behalf of the Palestinian revolution at the rally held by the Committee of Palestinian Unity at Al-Yarmuk Camp on the first anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, Hawatimah said: The enemy front believed that the Sabra and Shatila massacres had completed the last chapter, and that the Arab region had become a U.S. lake in which Israel could carry out all types of expansionist and aggressive acts. Hawatimah called on all groups of the Arab National Liberation Movement to support the Lebanese National Salvation Front and strengthen the alliance between the frontline parties represented by Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, so as to face the new aggression which the United States is preparing against the Arab region.

Hawatimah affirmed that Syrian-Palestinian relations will remain strategic due to the common struggle against the U.S. liquidation plans; namely, the Camp David accords, the Reagan plan, and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. He added that these relations aim to safeguard the national rights of the Palestinian people, foremost which is their right to return and self-determination as well as the establishment of an independent state on their land.

DFLP Supports Syria Against U.S. 'Aggression'

JN181500 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, 18 Sep (SANA) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has called for extending all possible support for Syria to confront the U.S. aggression, and for exerting all possible efforts to back the National Salvation Front [NSF] and Amal Movement to confront the U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist plan. Todaythe DFLP's official spokesman said that the recent escalation of aggression by the U.S. Marines, who shelled the Lebanese NSF's positions in the area where the ADF are stationed, constitutes an impertinent provocation against the Lebanese people and their National Forces, Syria, and all the Arab people.

The spokesman also asserted that Syria's patriotic, firm stand on replying to this new U.S. provocation and threat is fully supported and appreciated by all the groups of the Arab liberation movement and all the liberation, progressive, and democratic forces in the world.

The spokesman also called on all the Arab states to adopt a unified position to confront the U.S. Administration's new aggression and to back the Lebanese Nationalist Forces' struggle for the sake of Lebanon's Arabism, independence, and democratic development. Concluding, the spokesman said that the NSF, Amal Movement, the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, Syria, and the Palestinian revolution would be able to defeat the new imperialist aggression and foil its objectives in the region with the support of the Arab liberation movement and the strong alliance with the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc.

VOP Notes Continued 'Ferocious' Fighting in Lebanon

JN191818 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Recorded dispatch by an unidentified radio correspondent]

[Excerpts] Ferocious fighting continued on the various axes in the mountain of Lebanon and the Ash-Shuf areas between the Lebanese Nationalist Forces and the Phalangist army, which is backed by the NATO forces operating under the name of the multinational force.

Sources of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement said it has been confirmed that there are U.S. Marines fighting at the side of the

Lebanese Army, and that the Americans are participating with mechanized forces or with U.S. Marines [as heard], in addition to their use of air force and artillery.

Reliable sources in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement stated that the Marine Force and the factional army have shelled Syrian positions several times with artillery and tanks. The Syrian positions, however, have not returned the fire, particularly in the Al-Baturn and upper Ash-Shuf areas. According to the official Lebanese state radio, the factional army forces today shelled Syrian rocket launchers in the Al-Baturn area.

Military planes, said to be Lebanese Army planes, have shelled positions in the mountain, Ash-Shuf, and Al-Batrun. This shelling lasted for more than two hours. Meanwhile, Zionist warplanes flew over northern Lebanese areas at noon today.

In answer to a question by our radio on statements attributed to one of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's leaders in Damascus regarding the Palestinian revolution's stand, as well as the stand of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] on the mountain battles — this stand which was described by the Nationalist leader as bargaining — Palestinian information sources told our radio that all the Nationalist factions of the Lebanese people, who have been burned with the same fire that parched the children of Sabra and Shatila, consider the Palestinian revolution as their own revolution. The Palestinian-Lebanese cohesion is an existing fact baptized with the innocent blood of the joint forces fighters, who are now fighting the most ferocious and noblest pan-Arab battles, ignoring shortsighted calculations. The real pan-Arab test for the policies of any force, national factions, or Arab state is their stand on the Palestinian revolution under the leadership of Brother Abu 'Ammar. No policy fighting the Palestinian revolution can continue to exist no matter whether this policy is disguised by false enthusiasm for Palestine and Lebanon. We in the Palestinian revolution and in Fatah always overcome the various wounds and accusations because we are the authors of a pan-Arab message for change and liberation. We always extend hands to any Arab force, far from any bargaining, whether on our side or on this force's side, because the supreme Palestinian and pan-Arab interests always come first, particularly if these interests are the motive behind this force's basic inclinations on the Palestinian and Lebanese levels. We are facing a grave situation in Lebanon in whose light Lebanon's fate and that of the Arab nation will be determined.

Fighting 'Escalation', 'Lies' Detailed

JN161627 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Radio correspondent's telephone dispatch]

[Text] While the information media of the Lebanese authority, Radio Monte Carlo's Phalangist correspondent in Beirut, and the Phalangist radio in Al-Ashrafiyah are claiming that Lebanese Army planes have strafed the positions of the Nationalist Forces, observers in Beirut have expressed doubt that the planes that strafed the mountain and Ash-Shuf this morning were indeed Lebanese. Diplomatic sources in the Lebanese capital have said that the planes that strafed the positions of the nationalist forces in the mountain today may have been American or have belonged to the NATO forces, which are called the multinational forces. At any rate, the planes did not belong to the Lebanese Army, despite the claims of the Lebanese authority's information media and Radio Monte Carlo's Phalangist correspondent in Beirut who are spreading the Phalangists' lies.

The details of what happend today are as follows: These planes raided Kayfun, 'Aytat, Duhur 'Alayh, and Baysur several times. Sources in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement have announced that their forces have not suffered any losses in personnel or equipment. They added that as a result of this strafing the artillery of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] pounded the positions of the authority's factionary army and the Phalangists, especially the positions of the factional army in Suq al-Gharb.

The PSP sources added that the resort by the sides of the conspiracy to the use of warplanes against villages and populated areas in Ash-Shuf and the mountain confirms their failure in breaking the spirit of the fighters who are defending Lebanon's unity and Arabism. It also confirms the enormous losses suffered by the Phalangist army which, along with its leadership, is depending on the U.S. Administration to carry out the partition plans in Lebanon and crush the Lebanese nationalist forces, which reject and resist these plans.

The use of warplanes for the first time today against areas in the mountain and Ash-Shuf indicates a serious escalation of the situation in Lebanon and an implementation of the decision made by the U.S. Administration, headed by President Reagan, to back the Phalangist army against the Lebanese Nationalist Forces.

At any rate, what increases the belief that the planes that attacked the positions of Nationalist Forces in the mountain and Ash-Shuf were U.S. or NATO planes is that the airports normally used by the Lebanese Air Force are either under the control of the Nationalist Forces, such as Ar-Riyaq Airfield in Al-Biqa' and Beirut International Airport which is within the range of the artillery of the Lebanese Nationalist Forces and is unusable now due to the heavy shelling throughout the mountain war, or technically unuseable, such as Al-Qulay'at Airport in Kasrawan. Therefore, the reports disseminated by the authority's information media, the Phalangist radio, and Radio Monte Carlo's Phalangist correspondent in Beirut about Lebanese Air Force planes strafing Nationalist positions in the mountain and Ash-Shuf are sheer lies.

With regard to confronting the isolationist forces, the authority's factional army, and the U.S. forces, sources in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement announced a short while ago that the movement's forces will shell all airports or landing areas that could be used by warplanes. Furthermore, the radar in the Al-Baruk area, which helps in guiding U.S. and hostile planes, will be considered a major military target.

In the meantime, artillery and rocket shells fell on Al-Ashrafiyah and the perimeter of Beirut International Airport this afternoon. The shelling caused several fires. In Ash-Shuf, fierce battles continued to rage in the Suq al-Gharab area. All types of heavy weapons and rockets are used in these clashes between the

Nationalist Forces on the one hand and the forces of the authority's army, the Phalangists, and the Americans on the other.

AL-WATAN Interviews PNC Chairman Al-Fahum

GF171826 Doha QNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Sep (QNA) — PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum noted in a statement published here today that differences within Fatah, the biggest fedayeen organization, are ephemeral, and that the PLO is capable of overcoming these differences and restoring Palestinian unity.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Watan*, published today, Al-Fahum noted that the differences in views within Fatah are legitimate and permitted as long as they do not lead to bloody fighting, which is unacceptable to the Palestinian people. He pointed out that efforts continue to reach a common denominator between the disputing sides. He noted that work is continuing in the direction of finding a suitable formula in order to reach an agreement on organizational matters.

Al-Fahum stressed that the PLO is backing, in its political stands — without any reservation — the Lebanese National Salvation Front, which is opposed to President Amin al-Jumayyil, without interfering in the fighting taking place in Ash-Shuf mountain between the forces of front on one side and the Phalangist militias on the other. He said: The PLO does not want to interfere in the domestic affairs of any Arab country, but it is only natural that it acts against anything which may serve the interests of Israel and of Zionism.

Al-Fahum reiterated the PLO's rejection of the Reagan plan concerning the settlement of the Middle East problem, because this plan is aimed at liquidating the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state on their national soil.

Regarding the PLO's relations with Jordan, he said: We want to establish good relations with all Arab countries in light of the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences, which emphasized the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and as long as these countries adhere to the struggle against Zionism and Israeli expansion. But our people cannot delegate anyone to talk on their behalf. On the establishment of a confederation between a Palestinian state and Jordan, he said: Our people are looking forward to establishing a confederation with their neighbors, but only after the establishment of the Palestinian state.

Al-Fahum described Palestinian-Syrian relations as strategic. He said: Whether we agree or disagreee with the Syrian position we should not think of breaking off with Syria, especially at this stage which requires our confronting U.S. President Reagan's initiative and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Qaddumi Views UN Conference on Palestine

PM161350 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 17-23 Sep 83 pp 4,5

[Interview with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, by Muhammad Ma'tuq in Geneva — date not given]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with *Al-Majallah*, Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, expressed his disappointment with the French attitude toward the UN conference on Palestine and said that he is awaiting a goodwill initiative on the part of France toward the Palestinian cause in the form of an increase in the level of diplomatic representation of the PLO office in Paris and the convening of a meeting between President Francois Mitterrand and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Qaddumi denied reports of new developments in relations between the PLO on the one hand and Jordan and Egypt on the other. He did not preclude the idea that Egypt will return to the Arab ranks at the next Arab summit, but said that the "summit's main task is to resolve inter-Arab differences." *Al-Majallah* interviewed Qaddumi in Geneva, where he led the PLO delegation to the UN conference on Palestine, which was held 29 August through 7 September.

Qaddumi began his talk by evaluating the UN-sponsored conference in the light of its work and the attitudes of various parties toward it, both those who attended and those who did not. He said that "despite the final results, we can say that the conference was successful. There was a high rate of attendance in that 135 member-states participated, including 50 who were represented at the level of minister or deputy minister. There is no doubt that this high rate of attendance is an indication of international interest in the conference and in taking an active part in it. The speakers at the conference tended to support the Palestinian people's cause and struggle. They also urged finding ways and means to implement the UN resolutions and solve the Middle East crisis by resolving the Palestine problem."

Question: It has been said that there were differences over shaping a unified Arab attitude at the conference, which were reflected in the debates of the principal committee, particularly with regard to the question of recognizing Israel.

Answer: In my view the Arab stand was unified. The Arab working paper tended to support the resolutions of the Arab summit in Fes and the peace plan it has drawn up. There is no disagreement over this issue or any other principal issue, although there may have been different interpretations regarding side issues. The general Arab trend was to support the Palestinian demands as seen by the PLO.

Question: Yasir 'Arafat said that France made a promise but failed to honor it. Its attendance at the conference as an observer, like the rest of the EEC countries, was surprising and disappointing. How do you explain the French situation?

Answer: We are surprised by this French attitude. France was supposed to attend the conference as a full member. There were talks between us and French officials in which France promised to do everything possible with the EEC in order to persuade it to

attend the conference, but we were surprised when the EEC attended as an observer and behaved as if it were not there. In fact this cannot be regarded as a friendly attitude as it does not contribute to solving the Middle East crisis, which the EEC countries claim to be anxious to solve. These countries should have attended the conference and expressed their views but, unfortunately, they chose a negative attitude that does not serve Arab-European relations or the question of peace in the Middle East and in the world in general.

Question: Do you believe that the European absence was due to the lack of a unified stand within the EEC, particularly since we have seen the countries which attended as full members, Greece for example, adopt a more favorable attitude than the others toward the Palestine question and the Middle East crisis in general?

Answer: We realize that there are differences in European views regarding the Palestine problem and that attitudes differ from one country to another, but they had previously agreed in the Venice declaration and they could have repeated this attitude had they contributed positively to the conference work. But most unfortunately their absence is regarded as a retrogression in their stands and as submission to U.S. and Israeli blackmail.

Question: Were any efforts made to change the U.S. attitude and to persuade the United States to attend?

Answer: The U.S. attitude of rejecting the conference was evident from the beginning. We know the hostile U.S. attitude toward the Palestine problem, and there is no need to exert efforts to change the publicly hostile U.S. attitude.

Question: Do you believe that the French stand was a retrogression in the French attitude toward the Palestine problem and the Middle East crisis?

Answer: We have been disappointed by France's submission to U.S. blackmail. This does not serve the advanced relations which France is trying to preserve and strengthen through tours by French officials in the Arab countries and through official statements. We hope that France will rectify its mistake by officially stating its real intentions in not attending the conference. It should reaffirm its support for the Palestine problem and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and should also raise the level of the PLO's diplomatic representation in order to prove its goodwill. Our interest in the French stand in particular is due to the fact that France is the closest European country to the Arab countries and is trying to pursue a distinctive policy of its own.

Question: It has been reported that a meeting between French President Mitterrand and Chairman 'Arafat is likely to take place shortly. How true is this?

Answer: There are no confirmed reports of such meeting, but this too is one means whereby France can prove its goodwill toward the Palestine problem.

Question: Are there still French reservations regarding the idea of such a meeting?

Answer: We cannot say that there are reservations in principle. France claims that it is waiting for a suitable opportunity for such a meeting.

Question: 'Arafat said that he met with two Jordanian ministers during his visit to Geneva to attend the UN conference on Palestine and that he will send a Palestinian envoy to Jordan. Is there a new development between the PLO and Jordan?

Answer: The meeting was a courtesy call. Chairman 'Arafat met with several Arab ministers in Geneva and there is nothing new in the relations between the PLO and Jordan.

Question: What about Palestinian-Syrian relations?

Answer: Contacts and dialogue between us and the Syrian brothers are continuing. We are trying in every possible way to strengthen these relations in accordance with the 16th PNC resolutions adopted in Algiers. We are anxious to maintain and develop such relations. Syria stands with the PLO in directly confronting the hostile U.S. policy in the Middle East. It is essential to coordinate stands between us and to try to resolve our differences in a fraternal spirit through dialogue.

Question: Has mediation between the PLO and Syria made any progress?

Answer: The efforts that are being made by various quarters have created a relaxed atmosphere. There is no doubt that the fact that they are continuing is a cause for hope and optimism.

Question: There have been reports about Palestinian-Egyptian contacts in order to develop relations after they were officially severed because of the peace treaty between As-Sadat and Israel. Can you confirm these reports?

Answer: Egyptian-Palestinian relations are at their best, but these relations are between us and the leaders of the Egyptian Nationalist Movement, with whom we are in constant contact. We are seeking to develop and strengthen these ties. With regard to the Egyptian regime, our relations with it are still the same. We were expecting the Egyptian regime to take effective measures after As-Sadat's departure in order to open the way for the Arab countries to resume their relations with the Egyptian Government, but so far there have been no clear signs of change in the Egyptian attitude that would warrant restoring Arab-Egyptian relations to the state they were in during Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's era. Egypt is supposed to be the leader in defending the Palestinian cause, to support the PLO and the Palestinian people's struggle, and to play a fundamental and effective role in confronting Israel on all levels and confronting the U.S. policy, which is trying to dominate the Middle East region.

Question: Are you denying that there have been Palestinian contacts with the Egyptian regime to improve relations?

Answer: As long as the Camp David agreement exists each side will maintain its stand and will not change it. It is not easy to change the resolutions that were adopted against the Egyptian regime at the Baghdad summit.

Question: It is being said that the idea of returning Egypt to the Arab fold will be discussed at the coming Arab summit? Do you think this is likely?

Question: Certain parties may discuss the subject at the summit, but I cannot be sure of this because many still object to discussing this subject unless Egypt makes an actual move to radically change its policy and attitudes toward Israel and Camp David.

Question: What will the PLO ask of the coming Arab summit?

Answer: The holding of an Arab summit on schedule is essential. A general evaluation of the Arab situation and inter-Arab relations is needed, and the deteriorating situation in the area must be evaluated. Arab determination to confront Israel and the U.S. policy in the area must be reaffirmed. Attempts must be made to draw up a unified plan on which everybody can agree with regard to solving the existing problems in Arab relations. Arab differences are the source of our weakness and the weakness of all the Arabs. There is no doubt that any efforts to resolve these differences will have a positive impact on the general situation in the area and will strengthen the Arab stand in relations to world countries, which in turn will affect the attitude of these countries toward Europe and the United States in particular. There is no doubt that enhancing Arab military capabilities and coordinating political and economic efforts are an effective means of strengthening the Arab stands in international circles and conferences. I beleive that this is the task the coming Arab summit should undertake, and it should try to achieve the desired results in this regard.

Question: Do the Arab countries that approved the Fes summit peace plan still support this plan?

Answer: Yes, everybody supports and is committed to the Fes plan. There is no one Arab country that has changed its attitude toward this plan.

'Arafat Says Threatening Warnings Received

JN191850 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Tunis, 19 Sep (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has accused the United States and other unidentified sides of threatening the Palestinian people.

In a statement to journalists in one of the Palestinian revolution positions in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, carried by WAFA, 'Arafat revealed that he received warnings from the Lebanese Army, the Phalangist Party, the multinational force, and Israel. However, he did not disclose the nature of these warnings or when they were given.

'Arafat said that the Palestinian revolution cannot be neutralized or kept away from the arena. He added: I am here by the side of the fighters to defy anyone who stands in our way. It is impossible for me to stay away from my people when they are threatened.

'Arafat Praises Soviet Support, Denounces U.S.

GF162026 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, has highly valued the Soviet Union's firm stand on Arab causes and the Palestinian cause in particular. In an interview with the [Paris based] Lebanese weekly magazine *Al-Watan al-'Arabi*, Abu 'Ammar said that the Soviet Union is a loyal ally and friend of the Palestinian Arab people that firmly and consistently supports a just settlement of the Middle East conflict and constantly extends active aid and support to the Palestinian revolution. Brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that the PLO is determined to continue to strengthen and develop its friendship and expand its relations with the friendly Soviet Union.

He strongly denounced the hostile policy pursued by the Reagan administration in the Middle East. Abu 'Ammar said that the United States has given the Zionist enemy funds and arms to attack the Palestinian people, to deal blows on the factions of the Palestinian resistance movement, and to establish Zionist settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Brother Abu 'Ammar reaffirmed that the U.S. Government was directly involved in the bloody crimes that were perpetrated in the Sabra and Shatila massacre. He said that the U.S. Government had given pledges and guarantees on safeguarding the lives of the residents of the two Palestinian refugee camps following the withdrawal of the armed factions of the Palestinian resistance movement from Beirut.

SAUDI ARABIA

AR-RIYAD Comments on U.S. Forces in Lebanon

GF200720 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 Sep 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting editorially, the newspaper *Ar-Riyad* said:

The military presence of a superpower must have been sanctioned in order to implement international resolutions. The U.S. President has to use his forces in order to force Israel to implement a mere one percent of the UN resolutions, and not even those dealing with Palestine and the Palestinian people, but those dealing with the violation of Lebanon's territories, the usurpation of Lebanon's sovereign rights, and the distribution of weapons to the warring factions. If the presence of U.S. forces is designed to disengage the warring sides, then it is axiomatically known that there is no such understanding between the Lebanese and the Israeli sides that would allow this very disengagement to take place. The situation is such that the stronger Israeli side dominates the weaker Lebanese side. This has been the cause since the invasion, when the United States did not reach the conclusion that it ought to have done anything to restore peace in Lebanon.

King Fahd Receives Libya's Major Jallud

LD201220 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Jidda, 20 Sep (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had a meeting at noon today with Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolution Command Council in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. Bilateral relations and subjects of common interest were discussed during the meeting.

King Fahd Meets With Somali President Barre

LD172015 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1825 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz met today with President Mohamed Siad Barre of Somalia at the Royal Palace in Muna.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation; and His Royal Highness Prince Mushari ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

On the Somali side it was attended by Industry Minister Abdallah Mohamed Fadil, Minister of Livestock Resources Mohamed Ali Nur, and Somali Ambassador to the Kingdom 'Abdallah Hajj 'Abd ar-Rahman.

The meeting was devoted to a review of bilateral relations between the two countries and to issues of common interest.

Prince 'Abdallah Notes Need For Arab-Muslim Unity

LD171337 Riyadh SPA in English 1213 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Jidda, Sep 17, SPA — Differences and disputes have made the Islamic nation a target for big powers and even the Zionists who are challenging the Moslem nation by occupying Jerusalem, the holiest shrine of Islam, Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard said.

In a speech delivered on the occasion of Id al-Adha (Moslem's feast of sacrifice), Prince 'Abdallah said Israel "does not gain its strength from within or from superpowers, but mainly from Islamic and inter-Moslem wars."

Prince 'Abdallah regretted the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and described fightings between the two neighbouring Moslem countries as the "most dangerous calamity" faced by the Islamic nation after the loss of Palestine.

Prince 'Abdallah said inter-Arab and Moslem bloody disputes and fightings were the main reason of the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and other parts of the Arab and Moslem world. Such conflicts have given Zionists a big chance to strike at the Lebanese and the Palestinian people, Prince 'Abdallah said. "We should not blame the world for such disasters, but we have to blame ourselves for that," Prince 'Abdallah added.

However, the crown prince expressed his full confidence that sticking to the divine faith and re-establishing Islamic solidarity would soon enable the Muslim nation to recover its legitimate rights and liberate its occupied territories. He stressed that Islam "is a faith of jihad and justice" and described the Islamic economic system as the best in the world since it cared for the welfare of all humanity. The Saudi leader said the Kingdom, since unification under Islam banners, had spared no effort to re-establish Islamic solidarity and unify Arab and Muslim ranks.

Unified Stance on Arab-African Relations Urged

GF191446 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Analysis by Jasir al-Jasir]

[Excerpts] At the conclusion of its 80th session the Arab League council recommended the severance of political and economic relations with the Zaire and Liberian Governments, ending any financial or technical assistance to them through Arab economic establishments, and putting all the economic establishments and air and sea transportation means of the two countries on the black list, boycotting them, and denying them facilities. Adoption of this recommendation by the Arab League council will open up the discussion of the Zionist penetration of Africa. It might be appropriate to say that the current Arab incapability, which is clearly felt by the Arab citizen, resulted in the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Zionist entity and some African countries.

The unified Arab stance, by which we should resist the Zionist direction, should be based on a work plan which concentrates on

a maximum degree of conviction of Israel's danger to the goals of the African struggle, and exposing Israel's record which is against Africa's unity, the unity of its countries, and the safety of its territories; also its opportunist inclination, the incorrectness of its claims, and the illusions which it relies on in its efforts toward the Africans, and Israel's support to South Africa which continues to (?usurp) the political and social rights of the original citizens as well as exposing the similar racist and hostile characteristics of two entities while promoting African-Arab solidarity.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD Stresses Danger of U.S. in Lebanon

GF190808 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0648 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Sep (WAM) — *Al-Ittihad* has warned the Arab nation against threats to them as a result of U.S. intervention in Lebanon, and warned that such intervention "may develop at any moment into an all-out war in which the direct enemy this time will be the United States itself."

In its editorial today *Al-Ittihad*, commenting on the shelling by the U.S. fleet of nationalist and Syrian positions in Lebanon in the past 2 days, accused the United States of pushing the Middle East, and consequently the whole world, to the brink of a destructive war.

Al-Ittihad asserted that the biggest proof of the danger of the U.S. action in intervening directly and openly in the fighting in Lebanon is the movement of units of the Soviet fleet toward the shores of the eastern Mediterranean. *Al-Ittihad* said that a U.S. involvement in Lebanon is relevant despite U.S. caution and reluctance created by the Vietnam complex. In conclusion *Al-Ittihad* urged the Arab countries "to take this serious development into consideration."

'Ali Discusses Autonomy Talks Obstacles

NC191312 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed that Egypt will not accept for the Palestinians anything they would not accept for themselves. 'Ali explained that when Egypt started negotiations with Israel on Palestinian autonomy, it had hoped that such negotiations, which it conducted in good intentions, would lead to an agreement acceptable to all parties, particularly the Palestinians, within the framework of Middle East peace.

The Israeli understanding of this framework in regard to autonomy constituted an obstacle that led to the breakdown of negotiations, he added. Moreover, the Israeli tactics in the negotiations did not give the Palestinians, who constitute themain issue, the confidence to take part in the negotiations.

AL-AKHBAR Editorial on U.S., France in Chad

PM200845 Cairo Al-Akhbar in Arabic 13 Sep 83 p 5

[Editorial: "A Serious Development in the Chad War"]

[Text] There has been a serious development in the Chad guerrilla war. Reports speak of an imminent decisive war from the north southwards. According to agency reports, columns of Libyan tanks are moving from the north to the south with the aim of launching a fierce and decisive attack on southern positions.

A Libyan attack on the south would in fact be an adventure which Libya would not dare initiate unless it had advanced massive weapons. We are sure that Libya does not have the trained and experienced troops or technicians necessary for such battles. Libya pays for the arms used in the north and the south. The Soviet Union needs a lot of hard currency. In this way it gets Libya's oil money and in fact considers Libya's oil revenue to be its own. Add to this the money Libya pays the mercenaries fighting its war and the technicians in its service. The result is that none of the oil revenue is left for the Libyan people. We, therefore, should believe the reports that Libya is deep in debt and that it is borrowing money and using its oil as security.

These are facts which need no proof, but Libya seems still determined to wage the battle and sacrifice everything it has. This appears to be a matter of Soviet power. The agreement signed between the two sides gives the Soviet Union a right to that power, just as in the case of the Soviets and the Syrian Ba'thists in Lebanon. The situation is the same in both areas. There is talk of partition in Lebanon in Chad. The strange thing is that the talk about partition in Chad comes from the French who have pledged to defend Chad and to erect a French defense line to protect the Chadian Government's forces. The Americans and the French have emphatically declared support for Chad's legitimate government buthave done nothing except talk about arms supplies. The Americans and the French should realize that the battle is theirs and that in Chad they face the same Soviet interference they are facing in Lebanon.

NPUG's Muhyi ad-Din Discusses Egypt's Policies

PM201009 Cairo Al-Ahali in Arabic 14 Sep 83 p 5

[Interview with Egyptian NPUG leader Khalid Muhyi ad-Din by Philip Jallab — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: President Husni Mubarak's appeal to the Arabs urging them to get together and agree on a unified stance before Lebanon and what is left of Palestine are lost has resulted in some optimism that Egypt is at least beginning to stir and wake up after a long slumber. The question is, will such appeals restore Egypt's lost role in the Arab region?

Answer: President Husni Mubarak's appeal to the Arabs on Lebanon and Palestine is good, but what President Mubarak once said about the Fes Arab summit conference on the Palestinian question could apply to that appeal of the President. President Mubarak said at the time that the Fes resolutions were good but lacked the necessary implementation power. We believe that, regrettably, Egypt now lacks the ability to implement that appeal because it no longer has the leading role which makes friend and foe respect what it says.

Question: Why?

Answer: For many reasons. One reason is that our official foreign policy is now intertwined with the U.S. strategy as demonstrated by the so-called maximum military cooperation with the United States reflected in the joint military exercises and in the Ra's Banas base which is being equipped to accommodate the United States when necessary, as they say. The link between Egypt's policies and the U.S. strategies limits Egypt's independent and leading role because other states and nations in the region do not support this trend, and they believe that increased U.S. influence poses the most serious threat to their independence and freedom.

Those who want real Arab solidarity over Lebanon should look for a way other than the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Instead of condemning Arab solidarity against U.S.-Zionist designs they should appreciate, respect, and support that solidarity if they can.

Question: Government spokesmen see no significant difference between Egypt's nonaligned policy with special relations with the Soviets under 'Abd an-Nasir, and Egypt's present nonaligned policy with special relations with the United States. They implicitly agree that Egypt had no nonaligned policy under As-Sadat.

Answer: In 'Abd an-Nasir's era there were no special relations with the Soviets similar to what is said about Egypt's present relations with the United States. The relations with the Soviets were relations of cooperation and friendship. They were given military facilities at the time of the Israeli aggression against Egypt. The aim was to strengthen Egypt's military capabilities against Israeli raids and aggression. Logically that policy could not be faulted, bearing in mind the mounting U.S. arms supplies for Israel and the full U.S. support for Israeli aggression. However, there is no acceptable logic to support the present policy. As the government claims, the Israeli danger was eliminated when the treaty was signed, and the October war was the last

war. At any rate the United States would not help us in the event of an Israeli aggression against us. Despite this we are giving the United States facilities and bases to be used by them to help any threatened Arab regime in the Gulf. This means that our cooperation with the United States falls within the framework of the U.S. strategy at the expense of Egypt's leading and pioneering role in the Arab world, in the Nonaligned Movement, and in the Third World.

Regardless of our own views, the Egyptian Government should realize that what happened between Egypt and Israel must not be repeated anywhere else. It should realize that the only way to comprehensive peace is through a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian question, the question of the occupied Syrian Arab territory, and the Lebanese question, and through ensuring that the region is free from great-power military presence — I mean all great powers — as well any other military presence. Otherwise, the alternative would be to bring the entire region under U.S. influence.

Anyone who thinks that the United States is a partner in the peace process is mistaken because the U.S. policy is naturally against real peace, security, and stability in this region. To the United States peace does not mean justice between Israel and the Arabs. It means increasing U.S. political, economic, and military influence in the Arab World. Unless the Arab leaders remedy the situation by adopting a balanced foreign policy giving top priority to Arab interests, the calamities would increase and no amount of weeping and wailing would be of any use.

Question: Our government is fully satisfied with its foreign and domestic policies despite what the majority of the people thinks. The latest evidence of this is the orchestrated propaganda campaign about the great achievements scored in the first year of the 5-year plan. Speaking objectively, as an ordinary citizen and not as the NPUG secretary general, how do you view these achievements?

Answer: One of the most dangerous things the present government is doing is its attempt to present a rosy picture of the economy. We say that what is important is that any achievement should reflect the daily life of the people. From that angle we see no improvement, quite the contrary. There have been some positive signs but they are so extremely limited that they cannot possibly represent a real and practical solution.

General Command Issues Communique No 1,222
JN191530 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep ('NA) —The Iraqi forces killed nine Iranians, seven in the northern sector and two east of Basra. Communique No 1,222, issued by the Armed Forces General Command here today, adds that the Iranian forces also sustained two infantry positions destroyed in the northern sector and one vehicle and one personnel position destroyed east of Basra, in addition to one vehicle in the central sector and one hardware stockpile in the Maysan sector. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,222 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The Iraqi competence in fighting the covetous enemies will continue uninterrupted and defeats will further be inflicted on the charlatans of Qom and Tehran. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened artillery fire on a group of enemy troops opposite our positions in the northern sector, killing six and destroying two infantry positions. Last night one of our combat patrols pounded some enemy troops elsewhere in the same sector, killing one, wounding others, and forcing the rest to flee.

2. Our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing two and destroying one vehicle and one personnel position.

3. One vehicle was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Khurmal and its suburbs with artillery, causing damage to some civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 September 1983

Salim, Wadi' Haddad Meet McFarlane 20 September
NC201031 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1005 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] The meeting held in the republican palace with U.S. Presidential Envoy McFarlane has ended. Our colleague Joe Sa'adah reports from the Republican Palace:

[Begin recording] At 1200 [1000 GMT] U.S. Presidential Envoy Robert McFarlane and his aide Richard Fairbanks left the Republican Palace after holding a series of meetings with Minister Salim and Dr Wadi' Haddad.

After these meetings and before leaving the palace, McFarlane said: We are in a delicate phase of negotiations. I cannot reveal the substance but there is a strong will for reaching a solution and a cease-fire. We will continue our efforts to reach our goals. [end recording]

Officials Meet With Romanian, Chinese Envoys
NC191236 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Along with the Saudi mediation in Damascus, there is a Romanian mediation. The Romanian ambassador to Beirut today informed Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk that Romania is interested in Lebanon and that Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu proposes holding contacts on the Lebanese crisis.

Meanwhile, the Czechoslovak ambassador informed Director of Political Affairs Ambassador Khalil Makkawi that Czechoslovakia's stance is reflected in the socialist bloc's statement issued by the Prague summit supporting the Lebanese state's authority over all of its territory. Ambassador Makkawi requested that the contents of the statement be implemented to show the signatory states' support of Lebanon's regime.

To clarify the situation to which Lebanon is being exposed, the Foreign Ministry today sent President Al-Jumayyil's statements made to U.S. and the French television to the Lebanese diplomatic missions abroad for guidance in their required work.

The Chinese ambassador to Lebanon has informed Director of Political Affairs Ambassador Makkawi that his country supports Lebanon's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. The Chinese ambassador was briefed on the latest developments in Lebanon and he affirmed that China calls for the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and of all foreign forces from Lebanese territory.

UK Minister: UK Contingent Size Won't Increase
NC191904 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] In Beirut, British Minister of State for the Armed Forces John Stanley, who visited Lebanon today, has stated that the multinational force is making an important contribution to stability in Lebanon. He said that this force has helped Lebanon to maintain its sovereignty. He said that Britain is not prepared now to increase the members of its contingent operating within the multinational force.

It is worth noting that the British minister had intended to meet with Lebanese officials. He said, however, the shelling of the areas close to the Defense Ministry prevented him from going to the ministry.

Ex-Prime Minister Deplores 'Grave Escalation'
LD191226 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Beirut 19 Sep (KUNA) — Observers here fear that mediation and agreements plans will be changed. A former prime minister told KUNA that it does not appear that what is happening in Lebanon will cease [words indistinct] and "grave escalation" and the matter has gone beyond the fighting of local sides, including the Lebanese state, to the big ones, that is Washington and Moscow.

The official expects the present Saudi mediator, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, to be replaced by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, or the Saudi minister for information, 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, "if the white line is not distinguished from the black line during the current week."

The former prime minister, who wished to remain anonymous said that "the present military escalation on various fighting fronts indicates that response to political efforts is not serious and the gamble is not on the political solution but on achieving a penetration in the mountain region which constitutes a basis for a military end." He added that "the general situation is cause for anxiety and exposes Lebanon to total collapse, since the practical actions of all parties have taken Lebanon into a tunnel of an unknown destination and have obstructed all possibilities of dialogue and accord."

The former prime minister in his interview with KUNA criticized "the campaign concentrated at the National Salvation Front, Walid Junblatt, the Amal Movement, the Syrians, the Palestinians and even the Libyans and Iranians and the accusation levelled at them as working as one alliance." He said that "the practical actions of the Lebanese front do not reflect that they want Lebanon united if they did not control it."

Diplomatic sources which are still here in Beirut, despite the departure of most diplomatic missions, fear "further intervention and involvement by American if not with soldiers by naval and air bombardment."

At the moment quarters here expect the return of Prince Bandar, the Saudi mediator, to Damascus today in an attempt to reach a solution.

KUNA has learned from informed sources here that behind the scene attempts are increasing to reach "a 1-day truce" in the event that no better results were achieved through the renewal of Saudi mediation by the return of Prince Bandar to Damascus. The attempts have been activated since the death of the leader of the 'Alayh deputies bloc, Shaykh Majid Arslan, was

announced yesterday to observe tomorrow, Tuesday, as a day of general mourning during which all military battles would cease.

Junblatt Threatens To Ally With Palestinians, Others
JN200659 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has announced in Damascus that if the United States continues its direct intervention by preventing the PSP militias from occupying Suq al-Gharb area, no one will be able to impose restrictions on the PSP alliances with the Palestinians and others.

Army Imposes Curfew in Southern Beirut Area
NC191618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1558 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Telephone Dispatch from the Editorial Room at the National Information Agency — live]

[Text] The army command's guidance directorate issued the following communique a short while ago:

The army command has decided the following:

1. A curfew shall be observed day and night, as of 1800 on 19 September and until further notice, in the area which separates the southern suburb of Beirut from Ash-Shuwayfat and which extends all along the course of the Al-Ghadir River and its neighboring areas from the Kafr Shima bridge up to the fence of the airport's eastern runway.

2. Violators of the curfew provisions will be fired on without prior warning.

Air Force Attacks Qabr Shmun-Baysur Axis
NC191344 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1339 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] We have just received a report saying that the Lebanese warplanes are still raiding the positions of the foreign gunmen and their vehicles on the Qabr Shmun-Baysur axis.

AFP: Air Force Jet Reportedly Shot Down
NC191843 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, Sept. 19 (AFP) — A Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter jet was shot down late today over the Ash-Shuf mountains, a Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) military statement published here said.

The fighter plane went down over al-Mansuriyah, located between the PSP-HELD towns of Bhamdun and 'Alayh, east of Beirut, the statement said.

"Fighting is going on inside the town of Suq al-Gharb," the statement said, repeating an earlier claim that the Druze PSP forces today took the strategic Ash-Shuf locality situated 13 kilometers (8 miles) south-east of Beirut.

The fighting was especially intense "since American Marine forces today directly intervened in fighting in the locality on the side of the Lebanese Army," the statement said.

Monte Carlo on Plane Downed, Damascus Contacts
JN191812 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Walid Junblatt's sources have told our radio that the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] forces today managed to enter the township of Suq al-Gharb at a time when the Lebanese Army's 8th Brigade was retreating. Wireless calls for hardware and ammunition made by this brigade were picked up and this brigade's officers used loudspeakers to call on Walid Junblatt's forces, which were advancing inside the township, to cease fire. At this time Junblatt's forces were surprised to see the U.S. warships open fire and cut off the supply lines of the PSP forces which entered the township. Meanwhile, the U.S. hovercrafts supplied the 8th Brigade with the hardware and ammunition it called for. Thus, the U.S. forces enabled the 8th Brigade to destroy the force which stormed the township through their direct and flagrant interference in the fighting. The U.S. warships then continued their violent shelling of the Socialist forces' positions in an attempt to facilitate the advance of the Lebanese Army on the axes from which it had retreated last night and this morning.

It was noted that the U.S. side did not as usual claim that it is replying to the sources of fire directed at the Marines. A U.S. spokesman announced in a frank manner which attracts attention that the U.S. vessels opened fire to prevent the fall of the township into the hands of Junblatt's forces. The U.S. spokesman also admitted that the U.S. forces supplied the 8th Brigade with ammunition and hardware after it had run out of them.

Immediately after their arrival in Damascus Prince Bandar and Ash-Shaykh Rafiq al-Hariri met with Walid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah, who drew the attention of the Saudi side to the serious development which resulted from the direct U.S. intervention and to the Americans' public announcement of this action.

The Saudi side said it is seeking to firmly establish a cease- fire in the positions where the fighters are currently stationed before anything else under the supervision of neutral observers. Efforts will then be exerted to reach a political solution.

Prince Bandar then received a U.S. diplomat from the U.S. Embassy in Damascus for 1 hour. A diplomatic source told us that the U.S. diplomat put the Saudi side in the picture on the situation as it is viewed by the Americans. Prince Bandar also asked the U.S. side to clarify certain points, most prominent being those related to the true U.S. role in the fighting. Prince Bandar then went to the Foreign Ministry where he was received for about 1 hour by Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Following

this meeting. Prince Bandar told the newsmen that he is cautiously optimistic. Khaddam then received Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah. A diplomatic source told us that Prince Bandar and Minister Khaddam will hold a second meeting tonight and another meeting will be held between Bandar and Junblatt. This source did not rule out a meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and the Saudi envoy.

I have learned that the Saudi side is carrying the same plan whose main points were announced by Syrian Minister Faruq ash-Shar' last week. However, the Saudi side has added some touches, according to the diplomatic source. I have also learned that the Saudi plan this time excludes Kamil al-As'ad from the talks and accord dialogue.

Walid Junblatt and Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih who is one of the leaders opposing 'Arafat, held a joint press conference today. They talked about the U.S. esclation by directly participating in the current fighting on Suq al-Gharb. Junblatt directly accused the U.S. side of taking part in shelling his forces' positions in Suq al-Gharb. Junblatt also accused the U.S. forces of preventing the fall of Suq al-Gharb into the hands of the Socialist forces and the National Salvation Front [NSF] forces by directly supporting the Lebanese Army and the Phalangists.

Abu Salih responded to a question by journalists by saying that the new U.S. stand is a serious escalation in the region. He announced that his forces will not remain idle toward this serious U.S. intervention in Lebanon. Asked if his forces are participating in the fighting, he replied that there are Palestinian forces in Lebanon under the command of the NSF and Walid Junblatt.

Asked if there is any coordination between him and Yasir 'Arafat, Abu Salih and Walid Junblatt smiled before Abu Salih replied verbatim: Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is finished.

A short while ago a responsible PSP source said that a Lebanese Army fighter plane was shot down at 1630 today. It crashed in Mansuriyat Bhamdun. He added that the artillery batteries shelled the Al-Fidar airport which is being used by the Lebanese Army in the mountain area. He added that the PSP, NSF, and Amal movement sources were very indignant about the statements made by the U.S. official spokesman in Beirut.

At this moment Prince Bandar is meeting with Walid Junblatt. Talks and contacts are expected to continue throughout the night in this capital.

Army Command Says Plane Crashed in 'Alayh
NC191915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The army command has issued the following statement:

At 1730 today, while an unarmed training plane of the bulldog type was on a reconnaissance flight over the areas of the clashes contact with it was lost. It transpired later that the plane crashed in the area of 'Alayh. The fate of the pilots is still unknown.

Military Spokesman on Suq al-Gharb Situation
NC191558 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1538 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] We have just received the following report on the situation on the Suq al-Gharb front as summed up by a military spokesman at 1730 [1530 GMT] today:

The army positions in the areas of Suq al-Gharb and Kayfun at dawn today began to be subjected to constant violent artillery shelling and rocket fire and to repeated attacks, in which tanks were used, by several Palestinian organizations, especially the Fatah organization, the Popular Front [for the Liberation of Palestine]—General Command, and the Popular Struggle Front. Our army crushed all these attacks and repelled and pursued the attackers with gunfire to the bases from which they had set forth, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment. The army also used appropriate artillery and air force weapons to destroy their artillery emplacements and their vehicle and armed concentrations.

The members of our army have demonstrated a rare bravery in the battle they fought and preserved their defensive positions in a firm and tenacious manner with high morale and unshakeable determination.

Army Officer Reviews Battles
NC191852 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] A high-ranking officer at the Army command's operations room this evening gave an account of the attack to which the Suq al-Gharb area was subjected and which was repulsed by the Army. The officer said:

At 0450 today, the gunmen paved the way for their attack with intensive artillery shelling of all the areas from Suq al-Gharb to Beirut. The purpose of the shelling was to paralyze the defending forces. At 0500, the attack began on two axes: one from Kayfun in the direction of the Al-Husn fortress and the other from 'Alayh in the direction of Qurs al-Mudawwar. The attack aimed at making a response and confrontation difficult. The Army soldiers in the forward positions repulsed the attack on the two axes and routed the attacking gunmen after inflicting on them heavy losses in lives and equipment and capturing some of them.

At 0710, the aggressive gunmen repeated their attempt. They attacked the Army's forward positions on the heights of the Qurs al-Mudawwar and al-Husn fortress, using tanks and heavy weapons. Ferocious battles ensued. For the second time the Army forces were able to repel the attack and to defeat the attackers, inflicting losses on them in lives and equipment. These battles continued for 3 hours.

Between 1010 and 1535, the aggressive gunmen launched three attacks, one after the other. The Army forces repelled them each time, inflicting heavy losses on them.

Commenting on these operations, the officer said that the Army forces continue to preserve the defensive positions very tena-

ciously. They are enjoying strong morale and exerting every effort to preserve their dignity and Lebanon.

Army Helicopters Attack Positions in Al-Batrun
NC191207 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] At approximately 1000 [0800 GMT, the town of Al-Batrun was subjected to artillery shelling. Six 120-mm rounds fell on various parts of the town, including the hospital.

At 1115, rocket launchers retaliated by firing 40 rockets in one salvo on Jubayl and Al-Fidar coast. Several fires broke out in the area.

At 1120, two rounds fell on Al-Batrun. At 1135, seven rounds fell in Al-Batrun. Other rounds fell in the sea opposite the Al-Batrun coast.

At 1140, 38 rockets fell on the Jubayl area in one salvo.

Before 1200, two Lebanese Army helicopters attacked some military positions the area of Kafr 'Ubayda and the (regie) in Al-Batrun.

U.S. Ships Shelling 'Alien' Artillery Positions
NC192117 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2114 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] For sometime now, U.S. warships have been bombarding the alien artillery emplacements in upper al-Matn, which had taken part in shelling the Marines' positions today.

Syrian-Palestinian Posts Bombarded
NC191359 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] A short while ago, U.S. warships bombarded Syrian and Palestinian artillery positions which shelled the Marines positions in the airport perimeter.

Meanwhile, the situation in the mountain remains unchanged. The Lebanese Army is repelling the continued Syrian-Palestinian attacks from Shimlan and Baysur toward its positions in Kayfun and the surrounding heights. This is happening also on the axis of 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb. The army scored direct hits against vehicles and armed concentrations.

A short while ago, Palestinian and Syrian movements were seen in Ba'lshmayh and Ru'aysat Sawfar and in the outskirts of Shimlan and Baysur.

Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reported a short while ago that other movements of the Syrian Army appeared in Ta'lbaya and Dahr al-Baydar but their destination is still unknown. Our correspondent indicated that these movements include Soviet T-54 tanks, rocket launchers, personnel carriers, and ammunition transport vehicles.

'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Old Sidon Road Under Shelling
NC192038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2031 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] We have just received the following report:

A security source has stated that the areas of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, the perimeter of Galerie Sim'an, and the Old Sidon Road have been subjected to artillery shelling for about 10 minutes now.

Beirut Reports on Security Situation 20 September
NC200626 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] The security situation in the mountain today can be described as calmer than before. A military source said a short while ago that a vehicle was burnt in Ru'aysat Sawfar by the Lebanese Army forces at 0105 [2305 GMT], and that artillery shells fell south of the Sciences College and two shells hit the Al-Hadath area between 0130 and 0200, causing material damage. A fire broke out in an artificial leather factory in Wadi Shahrur because of last night's shelling. Civil Defense personnel contained the fire.

U.S. F-14 warplanes flew over the mountain and the capital at 0030. Explosions were heard intermittently in the mountain, particularly in the Suq al-Gharb axes, where the Army is returning fire.

Army Kills 6 Infiltrators in Suq al-Gharb
NC200811 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Pending the meeting of Saudi Prince Bandar ibn Sultan with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Latakia today and the outcome of this meeting, the security situation in the mountain area remains disturbed, although only one incident was reported so far, which a military spokesman summed up as follows:

Armed men attempted to infiltrate toward one of the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb this morning. The Army intercepted them, killing six infiltrators, wounding others, and forcing the rest to retreat.

French Planes Overfly Beirut, Mountain
NC200937 Beirut Domesic Service in Arabic 0933 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] A military source said a short while ago that three French Super Etendard warplanes are overflying the capital and the mountain on a reconnaissance mission.

Damascus Cites PSP Statement on 19 Sep Fighting
JN192100 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus — A responsible source of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has summed up the combat operations which took place today in Lebanon as follows:

The Party's forces this morning managed to advance toward Suq al-Gharb from the Ra's 'Alayh mountain axis and control the (Qashshu') hills, which overlook the [Lebanese] Army's supply lines in Al-Qammatiyah. The party's forces also occupied Tallat (Al-Khazzanat). Thus, the party's forces have advanced 700 meters from their former positions in the direction of Suq al-Gharb.

Today was characterized by the U.S. forces' direct participation in the fighting, something which was obvious through the intensity of the shelling. The Marines for the first time used the internationally prohibited cluster, splinter, and napalm bombs.

On the 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb front, the Phalangist army attempted to advance in the direction of 'Aytat but was confronted by our forces. The Phalangist army retreated following a ferocious battle that lasted for more than 2 hours, leaving behind a large number of dead elements and destroyed vehicles. The commander of the attacking company was killed after his tank was destroyed by a direct hit.

On the Kayfun axis, our forces advanced from the Kayfun axis in the direction of Suq al-Gharb and managed to control one of the strategic hills known as (Tala' al-Husun). Our forces are now overlooking Suq al-Gharb.

A Hawker Hunter warplane was shot down in the Bhamdun-al-Mansuriyah area. The burned body of Pilot As'ad Ilyas al-Haddad was found inside the wreckage.

In another development, Lebanese civil defense officials asked the party officials in Ash-Shuwayfat to allow them to transfer the bodies of 60 Lebanese soldiers left behind in the 'Aytat area as a result of the battles fought there in the past 2 days.

30,000 Refugees in Shhim Need Food, Medicines
NC191529 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The foreigners' war in the mountain has exacerbated the miseries of the Lebanese citizens. Civil defense sources have reported that the number of persons who sought refuge in the town of Shhim, after leaving Iqlim al-Kharrub has risen to30,000, and that they are suffering from shortage of food and medical supplies and lack various social services.

VOL: 300 Syrians, Palestinians Killed 19 September
NC191425 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English 1400 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] A military source confirmed to the Voice of Lebanon that out of the thousands of the Syrian-Palestinian aggressors over 300 have been killed during the past 24 hours.

Still in line with their policy aiming at reinforcing the Syrian-Palestinian-Progressive front, 3,000 Syrians and Palestinians are now in Baysur and 4,500 more in 'Alayh.

Amman's AD-DUSTUR Reports on PSP Radio Station
JN171900 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 17 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] Beirut, KUNA — The Progressive Socialist Party's [PSP] radio station was heard yesterday transmitting on a frequency that lies between Radio Monte Carlo's frequency [1235 Khz] and the frequency of Voice of Arab Lebanon [930 Khz].

During its experimental transmission, the radio broadcast national and patriotic songs as well as quotes from speeches by the late PSP leader Kamal Junblatt, who was assassinated during the Lebanese civil war.

VOL: Libyan Officers, Arms Arrive in Damascus
NC192036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2020 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that four Libyan aircraft landed at Damascus airport on Saturday, carrying 40 Libyan officers, artillery pieces, rocket launchers, and ammunition. The airport was closed for 3 hours.

VOL: Explosion in Hamah, Syria Kills 3, Injures 6
NC171906 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English 1835 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Three people died and six others were injured following an explosion which took place in a textile factory in the Syrian town of Hamah. The Syrian Army quickly sealed off the area and effectuated a search operation which resulted in the arrest of several people accused of collaborating with the Muslim Brotherhood organization — an organization hostile to the 'Alawite regime of Hafiz al-Asad.

Talas Says Syria Ready To 'Reply' to U.S. Shelling

LD200829 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0720 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Sep (KUNA) — In a statement published here today, Syrian Defense Minister Lieutenant General [rank as received] Mustafa Talas once again reiterated Syria's readiness to reply to any attack on its positions in Lebanon by the American forces in the Arab country. In a statement published by the Kuwaiti *Al-Ra'i al-'Amm* he said that "the American threats in Lebanon will not deter us from our struggle to reply to any aggression to which our forces are exposed." After Syrian positions in Lebanon were shelled from an American aircraft carrier anchored off the Lebanese coast earlier this week, Syria said that it would ferociously reply to such shelling.

Lt Gen Talas said, "The American aircraft carriers and naval forces will not scare us. Rather it will increase our determination to defend the greater Arab homeland." He stressed that the American concentration in Lebanon "is an intervention in the affairs of the sister Lebanese region, and Syria stands with the fraternal Lebanese people represented in the National Salvation Front." He reiterated that "Syria will reply to any aggression to which its positions in Lebanon are exposed, because it will not hesitate in adopting a decision to ensure the defense of the Syrian Arab region."

On the other hand, the paper attributed the leader of the Druze community, Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqrah, as having said:

There is no place for a coward among us and we seek to die honorably on our homeland instead of dying like cowards. He added that there is no chance for hesitation in this battle. We must place all our energies and potentials [words indistinct] National Front.

Prince Bandar Arrives in Damascus 19 September

JN191241 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1220 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Dispatch by Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live]

[Text] Saudi Envoy Prince Bandar ibn Sultan arrived in Damascus 30 minutes ago. Upon arrival, Prince Bandar told reporters of his complete optimism on reaching a cease-fire. He said that he will discuss the immediate halting of bloodshed in Lebanon with the Syrian officials, with Walid Junblatt, and with other Lebanese sides. Arriving with Prince Bandar in Damascus was Shaykh Rafiq al-Hariri, who was quoted as saying: The Saudi side will endeavor to establish the cease-fire on the fighting forces' current positions. A political solution will be discussed after that. Prince Bandar and Shaykh al-Hariri met upon arrival with Marwan Hamadah. Walid Junblatt is scheduled to join this meeting later. Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam is scheduled to receive the Saudi delegation later today.

Khaddam Receives Prince Bandar

JN191750 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] At 1630 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, envoy of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The two sides discussed the situation in the Lebanese arena. At 1730 today, Khaddam also received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party. The meeting was attended by Marwan Hamadah and Muhsin Dallul. The talk dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Damascus Criticizes U.S. Policy, Statements

JN191318 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Fighting is still raging in Lebanon. The Lebanese Government continues to send the Lebanese Army into a mad fight against certain Lebanese groups that are defending their rights, existence, and dignity as well as the independence and sovereignty of their homeland. The Israeli invaders are entrenching themselves in southern Lebanon, which they want to swallow up. In the meantime, the United States is continuing to wade in the quagmire of the unjustified daily interference in internal Lebanese affairs, exhibiting Israel's dirty linen in Lebanon, and embarking on a military and political adventure that will have far-reaching consequences in the region. This adventure may partially resemble the sin John Foster Dulles committed when he decided not to finance the High Dam project in Egypt and pressured other Western powers into making threats and practicing hostility toward the late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. Dulles' sin destructively influenced U.S. policy in the region and in all Arab-American relations.

The United States is slipping more and more into a serious abyss when it escalates its military involvement in Lebanon, threatens the region with the policy of the gun and the gunboat, and increases tension in a region which has been complaining of the continuation of war and of the possibility of armed hostilities breaking out. Some voices have been raised in the United States questioning the reasons for sending the U.S. troops to fight in Lebanon. The Arab voices say: Go home, you Americans. If some Reagan advisers and aides think that they can secure a success for him in Lebanon and the Middle East that would be his winning card in the coming U.S. presidential elections, they are showing great shortsightedness in understanding the region and the forces that direct and control its developments. These advisers and aides are rendering the worst service an employee can render to his chief during the election year.

General Paul Kelley, commandant of the U.S. Marines, was bold enough to say that if the Syrian positions were hit by U.S. shelling, then they were located in places where they should not

be. This boldness reveals a great deal of ignorance of history, geography, and facts, as well as an immense amount of hostility and ignorance of international norms and conventions. Such ignorance is very dangerous, because it is an armed ignorance that may drag the United States into an adventure that will have serious consequences, an adventure that will not be popular either in the United States or in the rest of the world. If the commandant of the U.S. Marines is bold enough to deal with the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, he must answer the following questions: What are the U.S. forces doing in Lebanon, thousands of kilometers from the United States? Is Lebanon a U.S. state?

The foolish behavior of the U.S. soldiers and politicians presents the issue of the urgent need for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Lebanon and the region, a withdrawal which is an urgent requirement both for the peace efforts in Lebanon and the region and for the efforts for the Lebanese national reconciliation. The Americans are directly responsible for hindering the cease-fire agreement, which was reached by Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, and hence for the bloodshed, for inciting one Lebanese group against another, and for urging the Lebanese Government to reject the cease-fire plan. The Americans are responsible for protecting the Israeli invaders and their expansionist designs on the Lebanese territory, and for drawing attention away from the crux of the Lebanese crisis and from the basic demand for a Lebanese settlement — namely, Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Lebanese territories.

The United States has committed many follies in the world which have resulted in U.S. losses and infamy. If the United States continues its current policy in Lebanon and the Middle East, it will commit its greatest folly to date.

ATH-THAWRAH Assails U.S. Involvement in Lebanon

JN200821 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 20 Sep 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary on the U.S. aggressive involvement in Lebanon, the newspaper *Ath-Thawrah* today says: U.S. admissions about the involvement of the U.S. Marines, aircraft carriers, and warships in the Lebanese fighting are appearing one after another. The U.S. Administration has not been able to justify this involvement even before the U.S. public opinion. However, the U.S. wallowing in the Lebanese guagmire, if we may say so, definitely indicates that the United States is implementing a covert plan, not only to attack Lebanon, impose its hgemony on it, and occupy it militarily, but to transform Lebanon into a springboard for the imperialist-Zionist aggression against Syria and the entire Arab region as well.

Ath-Thawrah adds: The U.S. calculations seem to be based on reviving the colonialist policy and resorting to military power to break the will of the people and enslave them. This policy goes against the progress of history and the spirit of this age and will not succeed in this region. The U.S. Administration is mistaken if it thinks that this military aggression would increase its influence and spread its interests. On the contrary, this aggression will complicate the situation further and will expose U.S. interests to direct, unforeseen dangers.

By leading the campaign of the imperialist powers against the Arab nation, the United States is returning the region to the atmosphere of the 1956 [Suez] aggression. The United States should recall the results of that imperialist aggression. It should ponder the consequences of that aggression and the fate of those who planned and implemented it to learn a lesson and act accordingly.

Concluding its comment, *Ath-Thawrah* says: The Arab nation will never remain silent toward the aggression or succumb to the will of the imperialist powers. If Syria is the steadfast Arab bastion which confronts the imperialist and Zionist forces, the Arab masses also stand by Syria. These masses are proud of Syria's firmness and are preparing to wage the battle of the pan-Arab fate at Syria's side. The U.S. fleets, warships, and forces will not terrify our people or force them to change their principled stands, because we are defending a just cause and waging a most noble battle against the forces of aggression, tyranny, and racism.

Palestinian Participation in War Explored

JN191636 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Report by Jibarah al-Barghuti, carried within the "On the Events" program]

[Text] The U.S. President and the pillars of his administration have embarked on containing Arab efforts to rescue Lebanon from the Phalangist-Israeli scheme. President Reagan once again deliberately threatened to use force, asserting that new naval reinforcements will arrive at the Lebanese shore. Reagan's statement was accompanied by two similar statements by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and the commandant of the U.S. Marines in Beirut. The statements by these three Americans were aimed against Syria and its Armed Forces, using the Phalangist-Israeli propaganda as a pretext for leveling threats and increasing tension with the aim of internationalizing the current war between the Lebanese people and their enemies, the Phalangists and Israelis.

It seems that President Reagan is currently looking forward to striking down any peaceful Arab effort to spare Lebanese blood, thus proceeding from two objectives: The first is aimed at turning Lebanon into a U.S. base to sabotage the international efforts to resolve the Middle East issue, represented by the Palestinian question. The second is aimed at protecting the Israeli occupation of the south and entrenching Israel's ambitions against the Lebanese territories. However, despite the fact that the United States has more than one pretext to double its military concentrations against Syria and the Arab nation through the full containment of Lebanon, some Arab stands have encouraged the U.S. President to fabricate new pretexts for his direct interference in the Lebanese affairs.

The claim that the Palestinians have a role in the Ash-Shuf and mountain battles is primarily meant to give the United States

and Israel new reasons for a more comprehensive interference. This claim also gives the Phalangist authority further pretexts to increase its pressure on the inhabitants of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. Those who maintain such claims are, therefore, closer to the U.S.-Israeli scheme. The statements made by the enemy leaders, headed by Ari'el Sharon, came to assert that the ones who blare out statements on a Palestinian participation in the mountain and Ash-Shuf war are no less dangerous to the inhabitants of camps in Beirut, Sidon, and the south than the Phalangist-Israeli-U.S. alliance and those who search for any pretext to commit massacres against the Palestinian camp inhabitants. Such statements constitute a new effort to be added to the U.S. attempt to strike at the present mediation efforts that seek to alleviate the Lebanese people's suffering and spare their blood.

It is well known to the Lebanese and all the Arabs that there is a National Salvation Front [NSF] in Lebanon, that it is this front which is fighting for Lebanon's freedom and independence, and that this front's supporters are the majority of the Lebanese people who took upon themselves the task of defending their land and Arabism, and who possess such a power and determination which will enable them to uphold the principle around which they rallied through the NSF. If the Israeli invasion has produced an obvious Arab defeatism, the U.S. interference produced more defeatist stands. Accordingly, blaring out empty and stupid statements on the Palestinian fedayeen's participation in the mountain war is considered a prelude to a new departure like that disgraceful one from Beirut, especially since the ones making these statements are well aware that the U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist demand is summed up in confining the Lebanese arena to the U.S. Marine Force and the Zionist occupation forces. These statements represent a direct invitation to expand the circle of the enemies' interference in Lebanon's affairs. Moreover, these statements are almost a direct instigation against Syria, which is present in Lebanon to confront those who are working against Lebanon's Arabism.

Perhaps the statement of Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, in which he refuted the allegations of those blaring out such statements, expresses a real enlightenment and constitutes a blow to those who are giving pretexts to Israel and the United States to liquidate the Lebanese people's power in the interest of the present Phalangist authority in Beirut. This refutation is also an expression of loyalty to the Arab efforts being exerted to rescue Lebanon and the inhabitants of camps in Beirut from massacres for which the Phalangists have always been trying to find pretexts.

U.S. Request To Bomb PLO in Lebanon Refused

TA201039 Tel Aviv Hatzofe in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] The United States suggested that Israel use its Air Force to attack terrorist targets on the battlefronts around Beirut.

U.S. officials have expressed astonishment at the fact that Israel is standing idly by in the struggle over Lebanon's future because they believe that if Al-Jumayyil's pro-Western regime falls and a pro-Syrian government is established in its stead in Lebanon, this would seriously affect Israeli-Lebanese relations, even to the point of creating a military front opposite the IDF positions along the Al-Awwali River.

Israeli representatives rejected these U.S. appeals but agreed to warn Junblatt against cooperating with the terrorists and conquering the town of Dayr al-Qamar.

Israeli circles are checking reports that the Druze have lost control over the Ash-Shuf Mountains and that the Syrians are in fact controlling the situation. If the battlefront advances to Beirut, the IDF will have lost the buffer zone separating it from the warring forces. The IDF has warned Druze villages against letting terrorists enter their territory, but the problem remains since some of the Druze are either terrorists or mercenaries themselves.

Our correspondent has learned that Israel has been making efforts to move those Jews in Beirut who want to leave the city to a safe haven until the situation calms down. The synagogue in Beirut, which in past years held services during the high holidays, hasremained closed this year. All Jews, as well as other inhabitants, remained in the air raid shelters.

'Authoritative Sources' on Lebanon Fighting

TA200832 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Tuviya Mendelson]

[Text] Jerusalem is following developments and the increasing tension in Lebanon with concern in light of U.S. warnings, on the one hand, and the arrival of the Soviet deputy chief of staff in Damascus, on the other. Authoritative sources are divided over the question of Israel's involvement in the new developments in Lebanon.

It was learned yesterday that, nothwithstanding Defense Minister Moshe Arens' remarks in a public appearance in Jerusalem 2 days ago, Israel has not changed its policy -- "to strike at the terrorists everywhere." There are those in Jerusalem who believe nevertheless that Israel should not attack the terrorists in Lebanon and once again deepen its involvement in that country.

According to assessments which were recently corroborated by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, attempts may also be made to attack the IDF soldiers along the Al-Awwali River. In such an event, there would be an Israeli reaction; however, apparently opinions differ over the need to intervene now or as long as it is not clear whether Beirut itself faces the danger of falling to the Druze and the terrorists. In that event, in which Amin al-Jumayyil's government would be in real danger, Israel may intervene and even use the Air Force. However, according to another assessment, in such an event Israel would have to wait and see how the United States reacts.

According to sources in Jerusalem, there are some Israeli political sources who believe that Israel should not intervene now only to prove that the war in Lebanon was not in vain. The decision to withdraw to the Al-Awwali was made after lengthy deliberations and consultations and after efforts were made to attain an arrangement in the Ash-Shuf area to avoid the developments that came in the wake of the withdrawal. Such an arrangement was not seen in the offing, and Israel decided to implement its decision and withdraw to the new line. According to these authritative sources, however, Israel was surprised by the intense Druze fighting and the extent of cooperation between the Druze and the terrorists. However, this should not change its policy or make it renew its involvement in the areas it evacuated.

Al-Jumayyil May Collapse Without U.S. Help

TA201102 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Yosef Walter and Ilan Kfir]

[Text] If Suq al-Gharb falls to the Druze and the terrorists this may cause the collapse of the Al-Jumayyil regime. If there is no immediate intervention by the U.S. Marines this strategic stronghold may fall today or tomorrow, military sources believe.

Yesterday the IDF's General Staff and the defense establishment leadership held consultations over the recent developments in Lebanon and the implications of the possible fall of Suq al-Gharb.

The IDF is alertly following the Soviet and Syrian involvement in the fighting in Lebanon. Christian leaders again appealed to Israel not to abandon the Lebanese people who are in distress. According to them, Israel must not allow the terrorists to gain a victory that will destroy everything achieved in the Peace for Galilee war.

An official decision has not yet been made in Jerusalem about a change of policy in Lebanon. However, in view of the possibility that the terrorists will reach Beirut, various methods of operation are being considered.

The U.S. Administration is disappointed with Israel's stance, which left it isolated in helping the Lebanese forces. The United States, it has been learned from reliable sources, may use much greater firepower and launch 6th Fleet planes to attack the terrorist and Druze targets if the situation deteriorates and Amin al-Jumayyil's regime is exposed to real danger.

A senior diplomatic source told *Ma'ariv* about unprecedented international activity by the U.S. Administration, Saudi Arabia, and other countries, to achieve a general cease-fire on the Lebanese front. According to the diplomatic sources, there is increased

evidence of active Soviet aid for the offensive mounted by the Druze and the terrorist organization.

It is believed in Jerusalem that the Soviets are spurring the terrorists and the pro-Syrian forces on to continued fighting so as to topple Amin al-Jumayyil's regime and deal a blow to the prestige of the U.S. 6th Fleet.

Against the background of events in Lebanon, the policymakers in Jerusalem believe that mistakes were made in the course of the negotiations with the Druze and that they violated the trust Israel had placed in them by allowing the terrorists to cooperate with them in the fighting in the Ash-Shuf Mountains and in the Beirut area.

IDF Stay in Lebanon 'Matter of Months'

TA191432 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 19 Sep 83 p 2

[Text](ITIM) — "The pressure of the Druze in Israel continues night and day; however, we do not have to submit to this pressure but do what is good for us, and not what is good for others. The IDF's stay on the Al-Awwali line is a matter of months and not years." This was said yesterday by the Israeli Coordinator of Activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, who appeared before the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce meeting at the America House in Tel Aviv.

He added that the minute the central government of Lebanon overcomes its difficulties Israel will return the Al-Awwali to it.

Lubrani noted that the IDF was not comfortable with its position in Lebanon and therefore it moved to the Al-Awwali line. The IDF took into consideration the coming winter and recognized that it had to redeploy. Before leaving the Ash-Shuf there was, among other things, an arrangement [hesder] with the Druze, and we knew that they would come out on top there, he said.

According to him the Lebanese Government failed in its present mission in the Ash-Shuf; Israel hoped that if it announced that in a day or two it would leave the Ash-Shuf, those involved would try to reach an agreement. However, this did not happen. Israel postponed its withdrawal twice and in the end rejected another request to stay in the Ash-Shuf.

"These are the facts regarding our departure from the Ash-Shuf without an agreement. We agreed with both sides, however, that they would not shoot at IDF soldiers," Lubrani said.

The coordinator of activities in Lebanon said that the Lebanese government is living with a situation in which the Druze control the Ash-Shuf, although it will not reconcile itself to it. The Lebanese Government has even scored successes in its defensive actions in the Ash-Shuf.

Lubrani also concluded that Israel was wise to talk to all quarters in Lebanon in the last 4 months in order to build 'goodwill' for itself on all sides. The result was that the IDF soldiers were not harmed.

"They say that Israel gambled on the Druze card. There is no Druze card. There are Druze there and they comprise the majority in the Ash-Shuf," he said.

"If the Druze allow the terrorists to pass, our situation will be worse; if we had not talked to the Druze they would have tailed us, and the terrorists' organization would have come in," he added. Lubrani said that in a talk with the Druze they told him: "Israel leaves and does not want the terrorists to come into the area, but who is going to help us? — You brought in the Phalangists who terrorize us."

In answer to a question, Lubrani said that contrary to what the Druze in Israel claim, there are terrorists among the Druze. He went on to say that he does not believe that the Americans will allow Beirut to fall. The U.S. Army will not fight there; however, it will give massive support to the Lebanese Government, including arms and ammunition, so that Lebanon canstand. The Lebanese Army has an answer for the Druze and the terrorists, but it does not have an answer to Syrian armor and soldiers.

He went on to say that not only did Israel not lose its influence in Lebanon, it is now being courted. Those courting it would like the IDF to show favor to them, but Israel does not do that. He also said that Israel has a representation in Beirut.

"We will be in Beirut and do business, just have patience," Lubrani said in answer to a question on whether economic ties will not be harmed.

In answer to another question, he said that the Druze in Lebanon fear that if they do not fight, others will fight them. They want special status in the Ash-Shuf.

Lubrani Surprised by PLO

TA191234 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 19 Sep 83 pp 1, 8

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Uri Lubrani, the government's coordinator of Lebanese Affairs, said yesterday he and his colleagues had not expected the terrorists to return to the Ash-Shuf Mountains,as fast and as forcefully as they did following the Israeli withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River line.

"Not I nor my friends took into account a terrorist involvement so fast and so massive in such a short period," he told the Israeli-America Chamber of Commerce and Industry here.

Observers suggested Lubrani's statement indicated insufficient communication or a difference of perception between the military and the civilian arms of the defence establishment.

IDF Not To Be Used for Al-Jumayyil's Sake

TA200805 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] A senior government source yesterday told the *Ha'aretz* correspondent that there is no room for Israel to volunteer to use the IDF for the sake of Al-Jumayyil, who continues "to lead us by the nose" on the issue of the ratification of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. According to this source, Israel should only have its own security considerations at heart. He added that the Lebanese war had proved that it is an illusion to think the terrorists in Lebanon can be liquidated once and for all. Even if the IDF hits them again, they will sooner or later return there, the source noted.

According to this source, the wounding of five IDF soldiers in the area south of the Al-Awwali proves that the terrorists remain a factor capable of harassing the IDF in Lebanon regardless of the extent of cooperation between the Druze and the terrorists.

In debates conducted yesterday by the top echelon of the Defense Ministry and the General Staff, assessments were made about the fighting in Lebanon and the significance of the increased U.S. involvement in the fighting.

IDF Patrols Attacked Near An-Nabatiyah, Tyre

TA191516 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1446 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Five IDF soldiers were wounded this morning when an explosive charge went off northeast of An-Nabatiyah in southern lebanon. The IDF spokesman reported that the charge had been planted on the roadside and that it went off when a convoy of vehicles passed by.

Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, has reported another attack in southern Lebanon: This afternoon a bazooka and light weapons were fired from a Lebanese civilian car at an IDF patrol traveling east of Tyre. No one was hurt in the attack.

Phalangist Plays Tape of Battle Communications

TA192002 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Interview with "special Phalangist emissary" (Pierre Yazbak) by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari in English, in Israel, date not given — videotaped]

[Excerpts][(Yazbak)] Well, there is currently information regarding the presence at this very moment in the area of the Ash-Shuf of two companies of Democratic Front, of 250 elements of As-Sa'iqah, of 400 to 450 elements of the Al-Asad battalion, and the entire Al-Yarmuk Brigade.

[Ya'ari] Is there absolute proof that these forces are actually participating in the fighting now?

[(Yazbak)] Well, there is actual proof; I can actually now let you listen to a recording of a communication that we were able to record by listening on the communication lines of the Popular Front. And this will be, I believe, a...

[Ya'ari, interrupting] Let's try it. Let's try it.

[Ya'ari] Do you have other intercepted messages like this?

[(Yazbak)] Well, in this cassette only I have about four [number as heard] messages regarding the Al-Yarmuk Brigade: a demand for an order of mission; a communication between a Junblatti position and a Palestinian position; and then a demand by a Junblatti patrol for fire cover from a Palestinian position.

Druze Denies PLO-Druze Cooperation in Ash-Shuf

TA201123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Zaydan 'Atshah, the head of the Israeli Druze Committee on Behalf of the Druze Brethren, denied that the Druze in the Ash-Shuf are cooperating with the Palestinians, saying that this runs counter to the principles of their religion. At a news conference in Jerusalem, he also said he is confused over the current confrontation with the U.S. Marines who are shelling Suq al-Gharb. Although he noted that Ambassadors Lewis and Fairbanks had promised him that the Marines only wish to maintain the cease-fire in Lebanon and will fight only in self-defense, he stressed that Suq al-Gharb is still far from the areas where the multinational force soldiers are stationed.

Muhammad Ramal, who is also a member of this committee and who returned from the Ash-Shuf a few days ago, said that a representative of Pierre al-Jumayyil has been in Syria for a number of days and that this is part of the double game being played by the Phalange.

More Druze Statements

TA191255 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The members of the Israeli Druze community are trying to play down the importance of the aid the terrorists extend to the Druze in Lebanon and emphasize that this aid is marginal and is imposed on the Druze in most cases. This, at any event, was the testimony of Druze who returned from Lebanon and talked with our correspondent Yo'el Dar.

[Begin recording] The Israeli [as heard] source is saying that our withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf Mountains has created a new reality and a vacuum in a number of enclaves. Over the last 2 weeks groups of terrorists have tried to take advantage of the IDF's absence in order to enter Druze population centers and set up new strongholds there. In the Bhamdun area, terrorists and Syrian soldiers, or perhaps volunteers from the Druze mountain [not further specified], did take part in the fighting, but this was unsatisfactory to large segments of the Druze community. The spiritual leadership, the source says, prefers that their villages

remain free of terrorists, and at this stage also of Christians. The reason is that tight cooperation between the terrorists and the Druze will not be in their favor in the long run. In due course the terrorists will try to turn their strongholds into bases from which they will launch anti-IDF activities, and this will (?entail) retaliatory acts which may harm innocent people as well. The entrenchment of the Syrians in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, it is believed, will close off the option of a reconciliation with the Maronite establishment.

The source could say that in several cases the Druze population hadexpelled small groups of PLO members. At the same time, he stressed, there are Druze who collaborate with the terrorists and Syrians for ideological reasons, or in return for generous pay. However, as said, this is not the stance of the majority there. The Israeli authorities made it clear to the Druze that they will not put up with the continued activity of the terrorists. A member of the Druze Followup Committee, Muhammad Ramal, who returned early yesterday morning from a mission to the small town of Hasbayya,says that an unholy alliance has recently developed between the Phalangists and the terrorists. The terrorists, Ramal says, are blowing out of all proportion the reports on their (?role) in the fighting in order to return to the arena again, while the Phalangists are doing the same as an excuse for their recent military defeats in the Ash-Shuf Mountains. [end recording]

Medical Treatment Given to Wounded Lebanese
TA200723 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 20 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] Seventy-three Lebanese wounded in the recent fighting have received medical treatment in Israel in recent days.

This was disclosed by the Ministry of the Interior, which also stated that 375 Lebanese refugees had entered the country in the last two days. Forty-eight passed through Israel on their way to other destinations.

In Holon a Lebanese woman was detained yesterday by the police when she was found wandering in the streets. She said she was a Christian and was afraid to return home. Police said she had entered illegally on Yom Kippur and would be returned to Lebanon today.

Red Cross Visits IDF Soldiers Held in Syria
TA200905 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 pp 1, 7

[Report from Switzerland by Freddie Rom]

[Text] After many months, the International Red Cross [IRC] representatives in Damascus succeeded in visiting the two IDF soldiers held prisoner by Ahmad Jibril's organization on Friday. This was announced yesterday by the IRC spokesman in Geneva, Jean-Jacques Kurtz.

At the same time, the STA news agency reported that a day earlier, the IRC representatives had also called on the six IDF soldiers held prisoner by the PLO.

It is stated in the IRC'S communique that the visits were conducted according to the international organization's regulations. The IRC representatives were accompanied by a physician, but Mr Kurtz said he could not elaborate on the condition of the prisoners held by Jibril's organization.

Egypt Releases Detained Fishermen After 4 Days
TA172121 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Sep 83

[Text] Two fishermen from Elat who were arrested by the Egyptians 4 days ago were returned on the eve of the holiday [16 September] through the border terminal at Tabah several minutes before it was closed for Yom Kippur. Yig'al 'Ezra and Yisra'el Gal'oz were detained while fishing near Coral Island without having obtained a permit from the Egyptian Consulate in Elat. Thus, the number of Israeli fishermen and sailors detained by the Egyptians near Coral Island has reached nine. In most cases, the detainees have been released after 24 hours after paying a $50 fine.

Committee Appeals to Egypt
TA190801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The joint Israeli-Egyptian committee appealed to the Egyptian authorities asking that too strict measures not be applied to Israeli fishermen and sailors who approach the Egyptian shore in the Tabah area, and that they not be detained without reason. Last week the Egyptians detained two Israeli fishermen for 2 days in the Coral Island area. Our correspondent David Friedman reports from the south:

[Begin recording] The maritime border between Israel's and Egypt's territorial waters is not clear. This issue, just like the other 15 disputed points along the Israeli-Egyptian land border, has not been settled, and no thorough discussion has been held on determining the maritime border. In the past, the representatives of both parties have agreed that Israeli fishermen can go up to a distance of 200 meters off the Egyptian coast. However, the Egyptian officers in the Tabah border terminal have lately claimed that the maritime border is located about 2 km off the coast.

Stricter military supervision has recently been exercised by the Egyptians along the Sinai shores. This was evident in four instances over the last 2 weeks in which Israeli fishermen and people sailing in the Coral Island area were detained. Their boats were towed to the Egyptian coast and the people taken for interrogation.

Following the recent incidents and the stricter Egyptian measures, the representatives of the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee appealed to the Egyptian authorities. They asked that the Egyptians behave according to the customary procedures up to now, that is, that fishermen who approach the coast be warned and asked to leave the place. Moreover, only if the fishermen do not heed the warnings will they be towed in, fined, and immediately returned to the country from which they set out. These regulations apply to the Red Sea as well as to the fishing area near Rafah. The Egyptians, so it transpires, did not warn the Israeli fishermen, who were immediately taken to Egyptian territory. Recently the Egyptians also made sailing near the Coral Island conditional on an appropriate license issued by the Egyptian consul in Elat. This license is given to tourist companies only. The Egyptians examine these licenses, and Israelis who have sailed in the area without the license were detained and towed to the Egyptian coast. [end recording]

Burg Calls on Egypt to Continue Autonomy Talks

TA181500 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1245 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs, Minister Yosef Burg, called on Egypt to immediately renew the negotiations on this subject. He made his call at a meeting with heads of Arab local councils in the territories. Dr Burg noted that Egypt has no reason to withhold the autonomy plan from the Arabs in the territories, a plan which will give them extensive opportunities for self-government. He firmly rejected Egyptian Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali's [title as heard] claim that Israel is the one delaying the autonomy talks.

Sharon Criticizes Kahan Commission Report

TA192021 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon continues to strongly criticize the Kahan Commission, using any available rostrum to do so. This evening he did so at a meeting of the "Young People for Israel" Movement held in the Jerusalem pedestrians' mall. He said that the Kahan Report is a weapon being used by all of Israel's foes all over the world. This evening's rally was an expression of solidarity with and support for Minister Sharon, and some of the speakers said Sharon would return to serve as defense minister, notwithstanding the objection of his opponents. A youth bearing a banner with the caption "Sharon No More" was detained by the police after having been assaulted by the participants of the rally who wanted to tear up the placard.

[Begin Sharon videotape] Where are they today, the same 400,000 — or were there really 400,000 [who demonstrated in Tel Aviv after the massacre in Sabra and Shatila] — who will demonstrate against the massacre that is being perpetrated in Lebanon and protest the sight of thousands of people over whose heads hangs the danger of slaughter? I ask you and them: Where are these 400,000? I never expected 400,000, nor do I think that 400,000 people actually showed up then. I do notexpect 40,000 or even 4,000, or 400, or 40 — I only want to see 4. Only four, four people [applause and whistles]. I am even prepared to ask for not four but one; one would be enough. Let just one man stand up with a placard near the embassies of various countries whose forces are currently stationed in Lebanon, when the most savage incidents of butchering are being carried out within a range of only a few hundred meters from their own troops. These countries have tremendous power, and unlike us — who did not know — are fully aware of what is happening. Let me see one man, one demonstrator, one banner. I only wish to see one! [shouts, applause, and whistles] [end videotape]

Herzog Consultations With Parties Continues

Receives TAMI, HADASH Delegations

TA191754 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] President Herzog consulted this afternoon with representatives of the TAMI faction about the formation of the new government. Earlier, he met with representatives of the HADASH faction. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that the HADASH representatives proposed that the formation of the government be entrusted to a member of the Alignment who promises to withdraw the IDF from Lebanon and stop the settlements.

Agudat Yisra'el Representatives

TA201114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Contrary to his original intentions, President Hayim Herzog will not announce this evening whom he will ask to form the new government. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports it is not clear whether the president will hold another round of consultations and announce his decision tomorrow.

This morning Mr Herzog conferred with representatives of Agudat Yisra'el, who expressed their support for the candidacy of Yitzhaq Shamir. They further told the president that a national unity government is very necessary at this time, but they would demand that such a government be based on the agreements of the present coalition.

At the moment the president is meeting with the two Shinuy faction representatives. Our correspondent says they will propose that the task of forming the new government be given to Shim'on Peres and they will express complete opposition to a national unity government.

Begin To Resume Normal Work This Weekend

TA200852 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will shave this weekend. As may be recalled, Begin stopped shaving when he developed a rash on his face. His physicians are now allowing him to shave.

The prime minister's inability to shave was the official reason

why the prime minister remained at his residence.

It has now been reported that in the intermediate days of the Tabernacles holiday — either on Friday or Sunday at the latest — Begin will resume normal work and will chair the Cabinet session.

Still Responsible For Government

TA200912 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 20 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] A senior legal source last night emphasized that Prime Minister Menahem Begin had not appointed David Levi to be his substitute but had merely endowed him with the authority to conduct the Cabinet sessions during his absence. According to the legal source, even after submitting his letter of resignation to the president, Begin continues to head a "caretaker" government according to Paragraph 25 (B) of the Basic Law: The Government, which states that "a resigning prime minister will continue to discharge his duties until a new government has been formed."

The legal source added that the prime minister's decision to ask one of his deputies (in this case, David Levi) to conduct the Cabinet sessions in his place does not require the Cabinet's approval. In fact, such a request is not at all mentioned in the Basic Law: The Government. The legal source also noted there is no disputing the fact that Begin is prime minister and is responsible for the government's actions and that no other minister has been authorized to substitute for him.

The same source added that according to the law, only the Cabinet — not just the prime minister — is authorized to appoint another minister to substitute for the prime minister. Paragraph 19 of the Basic Law: The Government explicitly stipulates: "If the prime minister were to be out of the country or temporarily incapable of fulfilling his duties, the Cabinet would appoint another minister from among those ministers who are Knesset members to substitute for him." However, since Begin continues to be prime minister, this paragraph does not apply.

Correction to IDF Patrols North of Al-Awwali

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "IDF PatrolsNorth of Al-Awwali Continue," published in the 16 September MiddleEast and Africa *Daily Report*, page I 2, first paragraph, line six:...150 km north [as published] of the Al-Awwali...(inserting editorial notation).

ALGERIA

Fifth FLN Congress Set for 19-22 December

LD192133 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Excerpt] An extraordinary session of the Party Central Committee was convened by the head of state today. It opened at 1000 and decided to hold the Fifth Party Congress in Algiers from 19 to 22 December 1983.

LIBYA

JANA on 'Lies' About Role of Multinational Force

LD191504 Tripoli JANA in English 1431 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Beirut, Dhulhijah 12, Sept 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the Lebanese fascist-Phalangist league Amin al- Jumayyil has issued blatant lies regarding the role of the so-called multinational force in Lebanon. He also showed that the Phalangist understanding of relations with the crusading force is diametrically opposed to the normal perception of this role by public opinion. This Phalangist perception is based on the desire to escalate war against the Muslims and to transform Lebanon into a bridgehead for Zionist aggression. Al-Jumayyil's desire has always been the annihilation of all Muslims in Lebanon and to direct a crusading blow at Syria and all Muslims.

Al-Jumayyil, true to the spirit of all criminal fascists, only sees what he wants to see. He has thus steadily and cleverly avoided reference to the bombardment by the U.S. Sixth Fleet of positions held by Muslim and patriotic forces. He has failed to mention the overflights of U.S. warplanes based on the aircraft carrier "Eisenhower" and the British jets that bombed peaceful Muslim inhabitants. He has chosen to turn a blind eye to the despicable role of the French forces in stoking the fire of the crusade in Chad and Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil has always been a liar, and the relationship between the multinational force and the crusade in Lebanon is both direct and fundamental.

JANA Says Fifth Plane Downed by Lebanon Front

LD191922 Tripoli JANA in English 1841 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, Dhulhijah 12, Sept 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — JANA correspondent in Damascus has reported that the forces of the National Salvation Front shot down today another aircraft of the air force of the fascist Phalangist government. So far five aircraft of the Lebanese Air Force were downed. JANA correspondent in Damascus said that a statement by the front is expected to be issued on the current fighting in Suq al-Gharb.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso To Pay Official Visit to France

AB191602 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Head of state Colonel Sassou-Nguesso leaves tomorrow, 20 September, for a working visit to France. Marcelin Malin reporting from France gives us details on the importance of the president's visit to that country:

[Begin Malin recording] Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the Central Committee, should be arriving in Paris on Wednesday, 21 September at 1100 for an official, friendly, and working visit. It is the first official visit by the head of state to France. This visit is important because of the multiform relations existing between our country and France in the economic, cultural, and social sectors, and because of the continuing deterioration of the world economic situation. [end recording]

GABON

Equatorial Guinean President Arrives on Visit

AB192105 Paris AFP in French 1319 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Libreville, 19 Sep (AFP) — Colonel Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbazogo, the president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, arrived late Monday morning in Libreville on a 24-hour "friendly and working visit" to Gabon, official sources disclose. Mr Mbazogo is notably accompanied by Juan Ollomba and Lieutenant Polycarpo Mansuy Mba, minister of mines and petroleum and minister in charge of water and forestry, respectively.

The Equatorial Guinea head of state was welcomed on arrival at the Leon-Mba Airport by his Gabonese counterpart, Omar Bongo, surrounded by all the dignataries of the Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG — only party) as well as some members of the large Equatorial Guinean community residing in Gabon numbered at about 60,000 persons.

At a press conference, Col Mbazogo said his short visit was within the context of "cordial relations" existing between Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, adding that he will discuss bilateral cooperation with his host, as well as "important issues concerning the subregion, Africa, and international politics."

Moreover, the Equatorial Guinean head of state expressed pleasure over "the satisfactory outcome of negotiations for his country's integration into the Central African Customs and Economic Union, consisting of Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, and the CAR. "The negotiations are moving in the right direction," he declared, stating that all that is left to be done is "the signing of the formal act of membership."

On Monday afternoon Presidents Mbazogo and Bongo are scheduled to hold private talks, extended later to members of their respective delegations. Col Mbazogo is scheduled to attend a gala dinner offered in his honor by his host and is expected to leave Libreville on Tuesday morning for Malabo.

Mbazogo Statement

AB200750 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1900 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea today arrived in Libreville late in the morning. Colonel Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbazogo is paying a 1-day friendly working visit to Gabon. I recall that an important Equatorial Guinean community is living in Gabon and especially in the capital, Libreville. President Obiang Nguema Mbazogo answered questions by newsmen. You know that the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara is meeting on Wednesday and Thursday in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. The aim of this meeting is to set the date for the referendum which Morocco agreed to hold by the end of the year, which is a very difficult undertaking as we know that since the last OAU summit in June the Moroccans and Saharans have in fact clung to their positions. Listen to what the Equatorial Guinean president thinks about it.

[Begin Mbazogo recording in Spanish with line by line translation into French] In fact, we first congratulate the current OAU chairman and we must congratulate the two sides in question — Morocco and the Polisario Front — as we now know that we can reach the solution the heads of state recently desired in Nairobi and in Addis Ababa so that the Saharans themselves can express their point of view on self-determination. [end recording]

ZAIRE

Officials Discuss Recent Economic Measures

AB191210 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1700 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 Sep (AZAP) — Ngole Iliki, state commissioner for finance and budget; Nyambo Shabani, state commissioner for economy, trade, and industry; Kilolo Musamba Lubemba, state commissioner for civil service; Sambwa Mpida Bangui, governor of the Bank of Zaire; Kombo Ntonga Booke, secretary general of the National Union of Workers of Zaire; and Bemba Saolana, president of the National Association of Zairian Enterprises [ANEZA] explained during a television debate on Saturday the recent financial and economic of the Executive Council announced last Saturday.

Sambwa Mpida Bangui, governor of the Bank of Zaire, first of all explained the basic philosophy underlying last week's measures. He admitted that from the end of last year, the Executive Council began to take economic measures aimed at liberalizing the economic sector. These involve particularly the liberalization of all operations for purchasing raw materials for small-scale production and departmental orders relaxing controls over agricultural and industrial prices. It is, therefore, a long process which has now matured.

The governor of the Bank of Zaire explained the notion of exchange rate as a price that is set according to the law of supply and demand. He affirmed that the decision to readjust the Zairian currency will contribute toward the expansion of stability of the country's finances. Mr Sambwa stressed that the foreign inflow will improve the balance of payments. He pointed out that

devaluation in itself is not a shameful disease and that it occurs in some industrialized countries.

Ngole Iliki, state commissioner for finance and budget, said for some time the prices of export products have been falling rapidly and that the country could not attain its estimated revenues, leading to a deficit. This situation, he disclosed, caused a shortage in foreign currency. To correct the imbalance, special arrangements had to be made. The state commissioner also expressed satisfaction over the surplus achieved in the first half of this year through taxes and customs duties. Finally, Ngole announced that a new tariff on imports had just been established for businesses and that customs duties have dropped by 3 percent.

In his address, Nyembo Shaban, state commissioner for the economy, trade, and industry, talked about the General Quarries and Mines Company and said it must develop its production capacity, increase the salaries of its agents, and make normal tax payments to the state. He hoped that the businesses and farmers will produce more to satisfy the law of supply and demand. On price controls, he said since liberalization, only electricity, water, and transport prices are controlled; in the other sectors, the tribunals will supervise prices.

Bemba Saolone, president of ANEZA, acknowledged that the recent economic and financial measures are proving to be beneficial to businesses. The liberalization of foreign currency and free trade are guarantees for the business community.

The state commissioner to the civil service, Kikolo Musamba Lubemba, specified that there is in fact a salary scale for civil servants. He also stressed that the salary increase was not 40 or 50 percent, but that it was the budget of the civil service that had been increased by 40 percent. Finally, Kikolo announced that this salary scale for civil servants will be partially enforced in October and then totally enforced in 1984.

For his part, Kombo Tonga Booke praised efforts by the state's partners to fix the minimum daily wage at 10 zaires for laborers. He added that the salary increase is substantial when taking into account current constraints and that it could be revised.

GHANA

Rawlings Receives ROK Presidential Envoy, Comments

AB180725 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, has said that common interest should be the basis for unity and not color, race, or creed. He made this observation when the visiting South Korean special envoy, Pak Chan-kung, called on him at the Castle, Osu, yesterday.

The envoy delivered a special message from President Chon Tu-hwan to Flight Lt Rawlings. The PNDC chairman appealed to the warring countries within the Nonaligned Movement to patch up their difference and use their resources to the benefit of their peoples. He mentioned in particular India and Pakistan who have traveled in this path before and have now attained a standard of technological development. He emphasized that their achievements will be more relevant and appropriate to the less developed nonaligned nations.

Flight Lt Rawlings stressed that the question of South-South economic and technological exchange has a greater potential to achieve a mutual benefit within a short span of time. He pointed out that so long as those countries who have achieved high technological levels continue to entertain these conflicts, they will be making it impossible for some of the factors which make obvious solution to the South-South economic cooperation to be realized. [sentence as heard] Chairman Rawlings warned that so long as these confrontations are allowed to continue, it will make it difficult for Third World countries to hold to their identity.

The envoy on his part noted that South-South cooperation is the only way to solve the problems of Third World countries. He gave the assurance that South Korea will do everything possible to strengthen the already cordial relations existing between her and Ghana.

Rawlings Receives Message From Saharan Leader

AB200840 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, has received a special message from the president of the SDAR, Mohamed Abdelaziz, who is also the secretary general of the Polisario Front. The message was delivered yesterday by SDAR ambassador plenipotentiary, Mr Ouali Ahmed el Hiba. It is believed that the message is on the meeting in Addis Ababa of the OAU subcommittee set up to find a permanent solution to the Western Sahara issue.

Briefing newsmen on the current situation in his country, Mr el Hiba said the Polisario Front has liberated about 95 percent of their territory and hopes to liberate the remaining part in due course. According to the envoy, Morocco's present economic situation will compel it to stop the war. He said even though Morocco has not shown any willingness to negotiate with the Polisario Front, the SDAR is going to Addis Ababa with an open mind hoping that OAU decision will be implemented. Present were the secretaries for foreign affaires, Dr Obed Asamoah, and information, Miss Joyce Aryee.

PNDC Adviser Tsikata Interviewed on Cuban Visit

AB161445 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] The special adviser to the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Captain Kojo Tsikata, has told the people of Cuba about efforts being made by the PNDC to mobilize Ghanaians in favor of the revolution. In an interview with the Cuban news agency he said the mobilization program is aimed at raising the political consciousness of the people in the task of development.

Referring to attempts to destabilize the revolution, Capt Tsikata said the current situation in Ghana is completely in our hands. On Ghana's relations with Cuba, Capt Tsikata described them as very good. He expressed satisfaction with the agreement so far reached with Cuba and their further development. He praised Cuban assistance to Ghana in several fields and made mention of the arrival of 600 Ghanaian youths on the Isle of Youth to study in various institutions. Capt Tsikata said he has been impressed by the teaching centers and the activities of the children at the schools established by the Cuban authorities. Children from other countries including Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Namibia, Congo, and Guinea-Bissau are also studying on the Isle of Youth.

Government Orders Release of Limann, Johnson

AB181325 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The government has ordered the release of Krobo Edusei, one time activist of the PNP [People's National Party] on humanitarian grounds because of his failing health. Mr Edusei, who has been in hospital for some time now, has occasionally fallen into coma. It will be recalled that Mr Edusei was sentenced to a term of imprisonment following his conviction by the public tribunal in connection with the Chevalier affair.

A statement issued today by the Ministry of Interior said the government has also ordered the release on bail of the former president, Dr Hilla Limann, and his vice, Dr de Graft Johnson, while investigations currently being conducted by the National Ivestigations Committee continue.

High Commissioner to UK Appointed to PNDC Post

AB181335 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] Ghana's high commissioner to the United Kingdom, Kenneth Dadzie, has been appointed special PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] plenipotentiary with the rank of a

secretary of state. This appointment is in addition to his present duties and takes immediate effect.

GUINEA-BISSAU

AFP: President Vieira Reshuffles Cabinet

AB162025 Paris AFP in French 1828 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Bissau, 16 Sep (AFP) — Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira has reshuffled his government for the second time after the dismissal on 21 August of three ministers for "irregularities" in the performance of their duties.

Thus, Filinto de Barros, former minister of information and culture, was named minister of justice, replacing Fidelis Cabral de Almada, whose post has been vacant since his nomination as minister of foreign affairs on 23 August. Alexandre Nunes Correia, former ambassador to Senegal, now heads the Ministry of Information and Culture.

In addition, Luis Sanca, former secretary of state for planning and cooperation, was nominated secretary of state for fisheries. This post was temporarily held by Joseph Turpin, the minister of natural resources. Finally, Bartolemeu Simoes Pereira, a young graduate in economics, was nominated secretary of state for planning and cooperation.

LIBERIA

Doe Announces Dismissal of 'Communist' Teachers

AB190852 Paris AFP in French 1738 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] Monrovia, 18 Sep (AFP) — More than 300 teachers in public schools suspected of "having socialist and communist tendencies" will lose their jobs at the beginning of next academic year in February, Liberian leader Samuel Doe announced on Sunday. Mr Doe criticized the minister of education for replacing "devoted and experienced" teachers with young ones educated in communist countries or influenced by socialist ideologies in Liberia.

The Liberian president stated that he will propose to the ruling military council a reorganization of the country's teaching service, to get rid of the "enemies of the revolution." The head of state also announced that parents will sign a pledge of good behavior for their children before the next academic year begins. Such a measure should enable the school authorities to impose necessary disciplinary measures on students who do not respect the pledge signed by them and their parents.

NIGER

Burundian President Arrives on Official Visit

AB161805 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Burundian President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza arrived yesterday on an official visit to our country. In a statement on his arrival, President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza said his visit is within the framework of the friendship and solidarity existing between the countries and peoples.

President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza attended a banquet yesterday evening at the Hotel Gawey given in his honor by President Seyni Kountche. In his address, President Seyni Kountche said African unity, which is rightfully reflected in the principles of Burundi's foreign policy and in President Bagaza's convictions, can only be achieved through the strengthening of friendship between peoples. As an African country and as part of the international community we are happy about your visit to Niger, said the head of state. As a statesman you are increasingly asserting yourself as the leader of a country that is sincerely respected as a defender of just causes wherever the strong are devouring the weak. We must consolidate our solidarity and cooperation, which are essential and which must unite us. We must put into effect the historical decisions adopted at the Lagos summit. In this context, our two countries must play a major role since they truly believe in African unity and have continually expressed their desire to work for its realization.

The head of state observed with satisfaction that the two countries are actively participating in the economic integration of Africa through subregional organizations in our respective regions. However, if development is a major preoccupation of our countries, which are seriously affected by the crisis, it still remains that African peoples must first and foremost resolve internal conflicts. African needs peace in order to use its influence in the global balance of power. Thus, said the head of state, we have better things to do than to waste our energies in tragic, destructive, and murderous adventures.

In Niger we are for the self-determination of the peoples, we are for the respect of the sovereignity of nations, we are for the respect of the territorial integrity of states, and finally, said the head of state, we are for the respect of the sacred principle of the inviolability of borders inherited from the colonial period. At this point, the head of state asserted his deep conviction that it is up to the Chadians and to the Chadians alone, with the help of the OAU, to end the fratricidal war, a tragedy that has already entailed unpredictable consequences.

Discussions Held With Kountche

AB171315 Paris AFP in French 1323 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Niamey, 16 Sep (AFP) — Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, head of state of Burundi, who has been on an official visit to Niger since Thursday afternoon, held private discussions on Friday morning with his host, General Seyni Kountche, it was learned from an official source.

The two presidents later visited the regional agrometeorological and operational hydrological training center, a specialized institution of the permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel [ICDCS], and the Niamey national museum. They also travelled 40 km north of the capital, along the bank of the Niger River, to the Karma rice farms which are irrigated by a solar energy pump.

During toasts proposed on Thursday evening at an official banquet, the two presidents placed this visit within the framework of friendship, solidarity, and inter-African cooperation. The two heads of state underlined their common faith in the unity and economic integration of Africa and in "peace and stability, which are indispensable for the development" of their respective countries.

President Bagaza and his Niger counterpart are to attend cultural performances in the evening. The official visit of the Burundian president to Niger will end on Saturday morning after the signing of a joint communique and a press conference.

Joint Communique Issued

EA182258 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Joint communique on the visit by Burundian President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza to the Republic of Niger — read by Burundian Foreign Minister Laurent Nzeyimana; recorded]

[Excerpts] On the invitation of His Excellency Major-General Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger, His Excellency Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, chairman of the Union for National Progress Party and president of the Republic of Burundi, made an official visit to the Republic of Niger 15-17 September, accompanied by a large delegation.

President Bagaza and his delegation received a warm and fraternal welcome from President Kountche, the government and people of Niger, particularly from the inhabitants of Niamey and its environs. President Seyni Kountche and President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza held talks, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternity, friendship, and mutual understanding. The two heads of state made an in-depth study of bilateral questions and of the situation in Africa, (?and discussed) international problems of common interest. The two heads of state noted a broad identity of views by their governments on the broad spectrum of questions [words indistinct].

On the bilateral level, Presidents Seyni Kountche and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza expressed pleasure at the excellent relations [word indistinct] which have always united their two countries and their two peoples and which are based on friendship, fraternal solidarity, and cooperation. The two heads of state expressed their desire to consolidate and strengthen friendly relations between their two peoples and to give impetus to and develop cooperation between their two countries in the economic, technical, scientific, and cultural fields. With this in mind a treaty of friendship and cooperation was signed and [words indistinct] economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. The two heads of state also agreed to hold regular consultations between their two governments on questions of common interest.

On the general situation in Africa, Presidents Seyni Kountche and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza stated their grave concern over increased covert and overt conflicts in many areas of the continent. They recognized that these situations can harm the stability and economic development of African states, as well as the achievement of African unity. They stressed the pressing need to preserve peace on the continent. In this regard, they concluded that respect for the sovereignty, independence, and the territorial integrity of each state, noninterference in internal affairs, and the peaceful solution of conflicts between African states are the indispensable conditions for the maintenance of peace and progress on the continent.

On the situation in Chad, Presidents Seyni Kountche and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza strongly condemned the continuation and the aggravation of the fratricidal conflict which has been tearing that country apart for several years. They, consequently, called for an immediate halt to hostilities and for a peaceful solution, without external interference and with respect for the independence and territorial integrity of Chad. In this regard, they stressed the responsibility of African states and the OAU. They specifically called on Chad's neighboring countries to cooperate in order to achieve peace in that country. The two heads of state also launched an appeal to all members of the international community to support the efforts aimed at reestablishing peace in Chad and supporting the constitution of that country.

With regard to the situation in the northwest African Continent, Presidents Seyni Kountche and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza confirmed the need for a just and peaceful solution to this question. They requested the parties concerned to help the OAU implementation Committee in the application of resolution [words indistinct] 104 adopted by the OAU 19th conference of heads of state and government on Western Sahara.

On the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state repeated the [words indistinct] condemnation of the policy of apartheid, the continued and illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, and its repeated attacks on the frontline countries. They reiterated their unreserved support for SWAPO, the sole [words indistinct] representative of the people of Namibia, in their struggle to recover their sovereignty, and their solidarity with the frontline states, the victims of repeated aggression acts by the racist regime of South Africa. They denounced all the maneuvers aimed at linking the independence of Namibia to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. They stressed the need to step up the fight for the elimination of apartheid and racial discrimination from this part of the African continent and to accelerate the independence process of Namibia, based on UN Security Council Resolution 435.

On the international economic situation, Presidents Seyni Kountche and Jean-Baptiste Bagaza expressed their grave concern with the international economic crisis, whose harmful effects are worst felt by the economies of the developing countries. They also reaffirmed the common determination of their countries to work to speed up the advent of a new international economic order which is more just [words indistinct].

At the end of his visit to Niger President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza said he was very encouraged and impressed by the progress and achievements made in these areas by the people of Niger, mobilized and organized under the wise and determined leadership of President Seyni Kountche. President Seyni Kountche in turn expressed his admiration to President Bagaza for the way in

which he leads his government and the people of Niger, [words indistinct] the efforts undertaken by the Burundian Government under the [words indistinct] of the union for National Progress Party, with a view to ensuring peace and security and the increased economic and social well-being of the people of Burundi.

On his way home from Niger President Bagaza made a stopover in Bangui, Central African Republic.

NIGERIA

Former Exiled Army Leader Elected to Senate

AB192050 Paris AFP in English 1517 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Lagos, Sept 19 (AFP) — Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, the ex-Nigeria Army colonel who led the unsuccessful secessionist bid by the eastern region during Nigeria's 30-month civil war, has been elected a senator with the National Party (NPN) following a court ruling. Mr Ojukwu, who took the rank of general before the Biafran rebellion collapsed early in 1970, spent 13 years in exile in Ivory Coast before returning home last year with a pardon from President Shehu Shagari.

Initial results from the August 20 senatorial elections in Onitsha, the bustling market town on the bank of the Niger River, gave victory to his opponent, the candidate of former President Nnamdi Azikwe's People's Party (NPP). The NPP gleans much of its support from the states of east and central Nigeria, and Dr Azikwe (the country's first president before the civil war) has close links with Onitsha. The NPN won the presidential elections, which took place a fortnight earlier at the beginning of the federation's five-tier election marathon.

Observers believe the announcement of Ojukwu's defeat pleased members of his own party who would have preferred him to keep a low profile after his return from exile than to dive straight into frontline politics. Some commentators suggested that his presence in the Senate will worry some of his party colleagues wary of the charismatic former rebel's ambitions. Mr Ojukwu's return to political life is likely to upset politicians from both eastern and northern Nigeria. Those from the east fear he will consolidate his influence over the Ibo people, who supported him during the civil war, while those from the north who fought the secession are concerned at his representing the party that traditionally backs northern interests.

Lagos Report

AB200855 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The ikemba of Nnewi, Chief Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, has been declared winner of the August 20th senatorial election in the Onitsha senatorial district of Anambra State. This was the outcome of an election petition filed in an Nnewi high court against the election of Dr Edwin Onwundiwe of the Nigerian People's Party, NPP. In his judgment, Mr Justice F.G.C. Uyana said he was satisfied with the petitioner's evidence that illegal polling booths were constructed in Onitsha northeast constituency. This, he said, led to the inflation of the elction figures in favor of the NPP candidate, Dr Edwin Onwundiwe. Mr Justice Uyana held that the petitioner had proved his case concerning the inflation of votes and illegal polling booths in Onitsha northeast constituency beyond all reasonable doubt. Justice Uyana also accepted the evidence of the assistant returning officer for the constituency that there were two illegal polling booths erected there. The court, therefore, held that the petitioner ought to have been returned or duly elected while the first respondent, Dr Onwundiwe, was not duly returned. The votes cast for the petitioner after nullifying the votes cast at the northeast constituency were put at 131,297 votes.

Ondo Senatorial Elections Postponed, Rescheduled

AB191600 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The senatorial election in Ondo State scheduled to take place today has been postponed to Wednesday. The resident electoral commissioner, retired Colonel Ayo Ario, announcing this in Akure, explained that the decision was necessary to enable the Federal Electoral Commission to make adequate preparation for the remaining three elections. The House of Representatives election will now be held on Friday, the 23d of this month, while the state house of assembly poll will take place on the 25th.

Air Controllers To Support Action Against USSR

AB160812 Lagos NAN in English 0748 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Ikeja, Sep 15 (NAN) — The Air Traffic Control Association of Nigeria said today in Lagos that it would support any action by the Federal Government and the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers Association against the Soviet Union over the shooting down of a South Korean jet with 269 persons on board. In a statement, the president of the association, S. Akerele, said it is incredible that in the civilised world, 269 persons aboard a plane can be so callously destroyed.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Receives Libyan, Liberian Envoys

AB192135 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and the head of state granted two audiences this morning to diplomats who visited him. They are, His Excellency Sa'id (Hafiana), ambassador of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to France, and His Excellency Jerry J. (Menja), ambassador of Liberia to Upper Volta with residence in Abidjan [names, titles as heard]. Following his audience, President [title as heard] al-Qadhdhafi's special emissary to Captain Sankara granted an interview to the press. Please listen to His Excellency (Hafiana):

[Begin recording] [(Hafiana)] I discussed with Brother Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR, frankly and in an efficient manner, the relations between the Libyan and Upper Voltan

revolutions. We spoke of politics, revolution, and cooperation between our two countries. I noted during my 3-day visit here that the Upper Voltan resolution is dynamic. I also noted the conviction of the Upper Voltan people and their faith that their vanguard revolution will achieve the objectives of the revolution. The alliance between the Libyan revolution and the Upper Voltan revolution is objective [passage indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, during his visit to Ouagadougou on 1 May this year, said that Libyan-Upper Voltan relations will be further strengthened, as Libya is committed to assist Upper Volta in some aspects of its developments, in particular the restoration of Ouagadougou streets, the setting up of a Libyan-Upper Voltan bank, in the supply of cement, and so on. Today, is Libyaprepared to honor its commitments? If so, when will these promises be realized?

[(Hafiana)] You know, after the coup of 4 August, you began initiating everywhere the revolutionary process we are now witnessing. Before this date there was some discussion on the bilateral level as well as discussions [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

The second diplomat to be received by the chairman of the CNR and head of state was the Liberian ambassador to Upper Volta. His Excellency Jerry J. (Menja), who speaking in English after his audience, stated to newsmen that relations between Upper Volta and Liberia are excellent. Answering a question on Liberia's decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel, His Excellency (Menja) stated that this decision was sovereign.

ANGOLA

Jorge Reiterates Conditions for Cuban Withdrawal

AB191305 Luanda ANGOP in French 1100 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Luanda, 19 September (ANGOP) — The Cuban troops will withdraw from Angola only after the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African forces from the country, the application of Security Council Resolution 435, the cessation of the South African aggression, and of the logistic and military support of the Pretoria regime to the band of UNITA puppets, Angolan External Affairs Minister Paulo Jorge stated yesterday.

The Angolan minister, who was addressing a group of foreign journalists now on a visit to investigate the refugee situation in Angola, thus reaffirmed the four conditions laid down by the Angolan head of state during UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's visit last August.

Concerning Angolan-U.S. talks aimed at establishing bilateral relations between the two countries, Paulo Jorge denounced the stance of Washington, which wants to impose preconditions, particularly the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola, before diplomatic relations are reestablished. In this connection, he reaffirmed the principles governing Angola's foreign policy, which are: noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, equality, mutual respect, and mutually advantageous cooperation.

The Angolan diplomat also described the escalation of the war being waged by the Pretoria regime against Angola as the main factor destabilizing Angola's economic development, as it has compelled the country to devote all its resources to defense, thus neutralizing the government's efforts to improve the living standard of the Angolan people.

Concerning the Namibian problem, the minister again explained that the Namibian question is the responsibility of the entire international community because Angola alone cannot continue to bear the consequences of the postponement of this territory's independence process caused by racist South Africa with the complicity of Western powers.

Envoy to Cuba Blames U.S. for Namibian Impasse

FL192220 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Angolan Ambassador to Cuba Mwaete Joao Baptista has asserted that the U.S. Government is responsible for the impasse in negotiations for the independence of Namibia. After describing the military situation in southern Angola as grave, the diplomat noted that following the South African attack on the population of Cangamba, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola launched a victorious offensive in Moxico which inflicted serious losses on the racist enemy.

He said that South Africa has become more aggressive because of Washington's encouragement in an attempt to continue to block the independence of Namibia. In that context, the attacks against Angolan territory have increased. He added that, up to the present time, Pretoria's attacks on Angola have caused material losses of over $8 million and its troops perpetrated many crimes, but the Angolan people continue to fight and are certain of their eventual victory over the racist and fascist regime. At a press conference held a few hours ago, the Angolan ambassador said:

[Begin Baptista recording] Concerning Namibian independence, our only requirements are the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia, the implementation of UN Resolution 435, and not linking the independence of Namibia with the presence of Cuban internationalists in Angola. The presence of Cuban internationlists in Angola is sovereign matter only of concern to the People's Republic of Angola.

The U.S. Government has put pressure on other countries to have them back their thesis, the policy of linkage. But all of us are unanimous in this principle. It is not just our criteria. It was and is the response of all frontline states regarding the situation prevailing in Namibia at this time.

We are united in agreement in defending the principle of the OAU for the complete decolonization of Namibia. We respond to one principle, and we are working on it. No one will be able to undermine the unity of the frontline states concerning the issue of Namibian independence. [end recording]

EC Parliamentarians' Meeting With UNITA Protested

AB191230 Luanda ANGOP in French 1115 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Luanda, 19 September (ANGOP) — About 47 African states recently protested to the EEC in Brussels against the clandestine entry into Angolan territory of members of the European Parliament, reliable sources have indicated in the Belgian capital.

The protest letter sent to the president of the European Parliament stated that the European parliamentarians on 15 June illegally entered the southern part of Angola where they had contacts with UNITA bandits and South African invaders.

These contacts, it is said, resulted in the signing of a communique in which they admitted that a first contact had taken place between the Common Market and the UNITA puppets.

In the letter, the African states expressed their strong indignation and disapproval concerning this practice, which constitutes a deliberate provocation as well as an interference in Angola's internal affairs and which compromised the European Parliament, an organization that deserves great respect.

The African countries, however, urged the EEC to take effective measures to ensure the pursuance of the efforts of this economic institution aimed at consolidating the friendly relations uniting the African and European peoples on the basis of mutual respect for the sovereignty of each party in accordance with international norms and practice.

LESOTHO

Spokesman Refutes SAPA Report on LLA Action

MB200650 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] A government spokesman yesterday once again refuted a false report circulated by the pro-South African news agency, the SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION, SAPA. The report, which was broadcast on the South African Broadcasting Corporation lunch-hour news bulletin yesterday, stated that eight members of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force had been killed by the self-styled Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA] in the Butha-Buthe District on Sunday night. The government spokesman said that this report was as false as the one circulated by the same agency last week in which the self-styled LLA had claimed to have killed 32 members of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force.

He added that it was clear that both the SAPA and Radio South Africa had, in their campaign to boost the collapsing LLA, decided to reject credibility in their coverage of events in Lesotho. He said the effect of this campaign was that Basotho who listened to SAPA reports on Radio South Africa ceased to take them seriously. The spokesman said that the Lesotho Government will, as it has done in the past, announce any deaths that occur in the Paramilitary Force or the police. Any other announcements made anonymously through South African media should be dismissed as false.

MADAGASCAR

Prime Minister Returns From DPRK Celebrations

MB191510 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Prime Minister Didier Rakotoarijaona returned home yesterday afternoon after attending the celebrations of the Korean national day in the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea. We also report that three Malagasy ministers left the country on visits abroad. They are the minister of culture and revolutionary art, Mrs Gisele Rabesahala, who represents the Democratic Republic of Madagascar at the international conference on culture and education organized by nonaligned countries in Pyongyang. She is accompanied by officials of her department and the Ministry of Secondary and Basic Education.

Bedo Joseph, the minister of transportation, food, and tourism, will attend the meeting of the higher council of the French department for cooperation on railways and railway equipment; and Joseph Randrianasolo, minister of animal husbandry, will tour a number of European countries, particularly France, Spain, Denmark, Rome, and Brussels, to discuss issues relating to fisheries and agriculture.

MALAWI

Chirwa Appeal Against Death Sentence Continues

MB161618 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] The appeal case against the conviction and death sentence imposed on Orton Chirwa and his wife Vera earlier this year continued in the national traditional appeal court currently sitting at (Tochi) in Blantyre. The first appellant was today giving more grounds of his appeal. This afternoon, his arguments centered on the contention that the offense with which he was being charged was not treasonable. Orton Chirwa has laid down 17 grounds of appeal in the appeal court. He has so far covered five of those grounds and, as the court adjourned, he was making his submissions on the sixth ground. The court will meet again on Monday morning next week.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel To Make State Visit to Portugal 7-12 Oct

MB191110 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Communique from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency General Antonio Ramalho Eanes, president of the Republic of Portugal, His Excellency Field Marshal Samora Moises Machel, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and his wife, Dr Graca Machel, will make a state visit to Portugal 7-12 October 1983.

RSA's STAR on Soviet Involvement in Captives Search

MB171733 Johannesburg The Star in English 15 Sep 83 p 1

[Observer news service]

[Text] Maputo — Fears of growing Soviet involvement in Mozambique have been expressed by Western diplomats after the reported death of some Russian hostages captured by guerrillas last month. Diplomatic sources say Soviet warships have been deployed along the coast since the incident. The Soviets are understood to have offered to be directly involved in the search for their citizens, but this has been declined by the Mozambicans for the time being. Western diplomats fear that such involvement would affect the already precarious balance of East-West forces in this part of southern Africa.

Twenty thousand government troops have joined the search in the northern Province of Zambezia for the Russian geologists and four Mozambicans. Sources in Maputo say the Army believes it knows the general area where the captives are being held. The

rebel Mozambique National Resistance Movement [MNR] has threatened in a broadcast on its clandestine radio to kill the prisoners if government troops try to release them. It has not set any conditions for their freedom.

American concern was expressed at a recent meeting between Mozambican Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano and U.S. diplomats. The Americans are reported to have condemned the abduction and to have accepted the Mozambican contention that all MNR activity against Mozambique is primed by South Africa, which the republic denies. Informed sources say Washington may have already contacted Pretoria to intercede with the MNR.

The geologists were captured in an evidently well-planned attack on the remote mining station of Morrua in central Zambezia. According to witnesses, 40 heavily armed attackers fought a two-hour battle with local militia guards, killing four. The incident seems to confirm the extent to which the MNR has undermined the authority of the government in Zambezia.

The MNR infiltrated more than 1,000 trained insurgents in August last year through Malawi, and it is now believed the hard core of the movement's 7,000 trained guerillas is concentrated in Zambezia. The MNR apparently decided to concentrate on Zambezia after a reasonably successful counter-offensive by government troops against former guerrilla strongholds in the central provinces of Manica and Sofala. The security situation there has improved considerably, particularly in Manica, where road and rail access routes, as well as the oil pipeline to Zimbabwe, were constantly sabotaged.

An average of 10 trains a day use the railway now, and the pipeline has been secured by increased Mozambican militia units and assistance of a battalion of Zimbabwe soldiers. The province's three million people, hard hit by acute shortages of basic foodstuffs and other essentials, have a long-standing aversion to the Marxist government of President Machel, and are readily receptive to MNR promises of a better life.

The Mozambicans themselves are resigned to prolonged conflict with the MNR. "We will develop our country with a hoe in one hand and an ax in the other," said a senior official.

New Governor of Tete Province Appointed

MB191527 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Rui Baltazar, member of the People's Assembly Standing Commission and minister of finance, swore in Francisco Joao Pateguana, deputy minister of agriculture for the cooperative and family sector, as governor of Tete Province yesterday. The ceremony was held during a mass rally held in the city of Tete, with the presence of Joao Baptista Cosme, outgoing governor of Tete Province. Speaking during the meeting the minister of finance hailed the wise manner in which Joao Baptista Cosme led the Province of Tete despite the countless difficulties he faced. It will be recalled that Joao Baptista Cosme has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Mozambique to the Portuguese Republic under the terms of a presidential decree.

NAMIBIA

Security Forces Kill 663 SWAPO 'Terrorists'

MB191208 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Some 663 SWAPO terrorists have been shot dead by the security forces in South-West Africa since the beginning of the year. This information is contained in the latest issue of the South African Army's newspaper *Uniform*. Quoting figures supplied by the South-West Africa Territory Force, the newspaper says 7,894 SWAPO terrorists have been shot dead since the terrorist war started 17 years ago. Ninety civilians have been killed in the conflict this year: 15 died in landmine explosions, 45 were murdered, and 30 were killed in cross fire. SWAPO also kidnapped 264 civilians to bring the total for 17 years to about 1,500. During the 17 years, 362 civilians died in landmine blasts, 392 were murdered, and 858 were killed or injured as a result of terrorist action.

SOUTH AFRICA

Rail Link Agreement Signed With Swaziland

MB161206 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] South Africa and Swaziland have concluded an agreement on rail links that will be of great economic benefit to both countries. The agreement was signed after talks in Pretoria this morning between the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, and the Swaziland minister of foreign affairs, Mr Richard Dlamini. The agreement provides for the construction of a rail link from Komatipoort in the eastern Transvaal to the Border Gate post, from where it will be linked to a Swaziland railway line. The project will be of economic benefit to both countries, as it will mean additional links with the most important harbors. The project is expected to be completed in 2 or 3 years.

Swazi Minister on Agreement

MB161950 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] The Swaziland minister of foreign affairs, Mr Richard Dlamini, says the railway line on which his country and South Africa reached agreement in Pretoria today will not jeopardize Swaziland's rail links with the Mozambique capital of Maputo. Mr Dlamini was speaking at a news conference in Pretoria after he and his South African counterpart, Mr Pik Botha, had signed an agreement for the construction of a line from Komatipoort to the Border Gate border post. He said that countries such as Swaziland that had no outlet to the sea could not afford isolation.

ZAMBIA

Mundia Calls for Government Policy on Imports

MB161858 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia today described as shameful that even after 19 years of independence the country still has to depend on imports for its survival. Mr Mundia wondered whether time has not come for the introduction of a government policy that will demand that before any foreign exchange allocation is made for the purpose of raw materials, the National Council for Scientific Research or any other appropriate body must confirm that such materials cannot be produced or procured anywhere in the country.

The prime minister, who was speaking when he officially opened a 2-day symposium of the Zambia Institute of Marketing Management at Lusaka Hotel, urged the symposium to seriously analyze and ascertain whether time was not opportune for the introduction of such a policy. He said he wants this country's commerce and industry to shake off their colonial hangover which influences them to prefer imported raw materials to local materials which in most cases are superior. Mr Mundia said that if the local industries did not know where to find the raw materials the National Council for Scientific Research, which is well equipped in both manpower and facilities and which is being run at great cost by the state, would help out.

Rwanda Party Official Arrives for Talks 19 September

MB191940 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] The secretary general of the National Revolutionary Movement for the Development of Rwanda, Mr (Bonaventure Hadimana), arrived in Lusaka to a tumultuous welcome today, to start a 5-day official visit. He was met at Lusaka International Airport by the party secretary general, Mr Humphrey Mulemba; the secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Grey Zulu; and Central Committee members, and other senior party and government officials. Lusaka residents turned out in large numbers at the airport to give the Rwanda party secretary general a rousing welcome. Mr (Hadimana), who is leading an eight-man delegation, is expected to leave for home on Friday. While in the country, he will hold talks with Dick Mulemba and visit a number of places, including Livingstone, the (?interior) of Zambia, and Kafue textiles.

Western Saharan Envoy Cited on Talks With Morocco

MB161816 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] A Saharan Arab Democratic Republic diplomat has warned in Lusaka that nothing short of direct talks between his government and Morocco will solve the current problems between the two. SDAR Ambassador to Mozambique Mokhtar Ibrahim, who yesterday handed a special message to party Secretary General Mr Humphrey Mulemba from his president, Mohamed Abdelaziz, said in an interview with ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY that the current efforts of the OAU Implementation Committee can only be successful if they result in talks between his government and Morocco.

Mr Ibrahim said it was in this light that he was visiting a number of African countries with messages from his president to urge government leaders to influence Morocco to abide by the OAU resolution of the last summit which called for a referendum to determine the future of the SDAR. He warned that the SDAR will not make further concessions at the next OAU summit scheduled for Guinea, and that Morocco would be to blame for the failure of the summit.

King Hassan 3 months ago ruled out direct talks with the SDAR in defiance of the OAU resolution. Mr Ibrahim noted that unless the OAU Implementation Committee, which has invited both his country and Morocco for a meeting in Addis Ababa, gets the two sides to have direct talks, the remaining recourse would be intensified armed struggle.

Zambia supports the SDAR and has called on Morocco to implement the OAU resolution calling for direct talks and calling for a referendum to determine the future of the SDAR.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Addresses ZANU-PF Seminar 17 September

MB180656 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The minister of mines, Comrade Maurice Nyamgumbo, has urged ZANU-PF supporters to refrain from corruption, saying this will tarnish the image of the party. Speaking at the opening of a 2-day political seminar at Gwanda's Pelindaba stadium yesterday, Comrade Nyamgumbo, who is also the ZANU-PF's national organizing secretary, said the party should be properly organized before the provincial congress scheduled for October. He noted that great progress has been made in the reorganizing of the party, and today there are 33 ZANU-PF party districts with 17 more to be established by the end of the month. Comrade Nyamgumbo discouraged party members from using force to nonmembers who intend joining the party. [as heard]

Other ministers who spoke at the seminar were the minister of national supply, Comrade Enos Nkala; the minister of state in the prime minister's office responsible for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa; and the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira.

Nkomo Appeals for Unity at Funeral of ZAPU Figure

MB180616 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Sep 83

[Text] The President of ZAPU, Dr Joshua Nkomo has appealed to Zimbabweans to live and work together regardless of their tribal or political affiliations. He was speaking at (Wangrove) cemetary in Harare yesterday at the funeral of Comrade (Rose

Nyamruwa), a former commander of Victory Camp in Zambia, who died last Tuesday. Dr Nkomo said whites in Zimbabwe should be accepted as citizens who are ready to work for the development of the country. He paid tribute to the late Comrade (Nyamruwa), who was a member of the Central Committee of ZAPU at the time of her death. Comrade (Nyamruwa) became involved in politics in 1967 when she joined the ANC. She later helped in the formation of the National Democratic Party before she joined ZAPU. Several senior government officials attended her funeral, among them Comrade (John Simba), a director of information, who represented the government.

Government To Assist Industry in Communal Lands

MB200652 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] The government is to set up a financing and consultancy services corporation to assist most manufacturing industries in the communal lands. This was revealed by the deputy minister of industry and energy development, Comrade Dzikamai Mavhaire, when he addressed the business community in Chiredze yesterday. Comrade Mavhaire gave the assurance that the government is ready to give all possible assistance to cooperatives. He expressed disappointment that of the 130 industrial projects which were approved and implemented last year, the majority went to big cities which are already reasonably developed.

Two Firms Found Shorting Army on Supplies

MB160946 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Sep 83

[Text] Officials of the Ministries of Defense and National Supplies have unearthed a racket involving two companies that have been short-supplying the Army with food, causing the government to lose more than $1 million. The minister of national supplies, Comrade Enos Nkala, says the government is now in the process of recovering the $1 million lost to one of the companies. He said the company will have to supply the Army with an equivalent amount of food for which the government will not pay. Comrade Nkala said officials of both ministries are also quantifying the losses incurred through the second company.